Hafa Adai!

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DAYS TO GO BEFORE
ELECTION DAY

OPINION METER

This week's poll:
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31 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

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Finish Line
With five days until the election, the presidential race is picking up pace.

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The death toll from an earthquake that devastated an impoverished valley in Pakistan has risen to 215.

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Roundup of spooktacular events for Halloween. PAGE 4

US Immigration now hiring

But local Immigration officers not a priority

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has already announced the hiring of customs and field operation officers who will be assigned in the CNMI, but there is no special consideration to make local Immigration officers a priority, according to CNMI Immigration Director Melvin Grey.

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> *This federalization has taken 69 immigration employees and inspectors and one admin officer and put them out of a career. Their immigration career is basically over June 1st, 2009.*
>
> —CNMI Immigration Director Melvin Grey

PSS enrollment down by nearly 400

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

Official numbers show enrollment for the Public School System is down 3 percent this year compared to last year.

Numbers released by PSS show 10,913 students are enrolled in the elementary and secondary schools, as well as the Early Intervention Program, Headstart and the Advance Development Institute. This is a 3.42 percent decrease from last year's enrollment total of 11,299.

The peak number for enrollment during the last five years was in 2005-2006, when 11,718 students were enrolled.

Education Commissioner Rita Sablan said she did not

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Fitial

'Transparency is not the highest virtue'

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

The Fitial administration is bent on concealing financial details about the federalization lawsuit until the case is over.

Acting Attorney General Gregory Baka said in a press conference yesterday that the administration is only following the law when it declined a lawmaker's Open Government Act request for financial information about the lawsuit Gov. Benigno R. Fitial had filed against the U.S. government over the labor provisions of the new immigration law. He noted that the OGA

See TRANSPARENCY on Page 4

Northwest, Delta merge, creating world's largest airline

By JOSHUA FREED
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Delta Air Lines completed its $2.8 billion acquisition of Northwest Airlines yesterday, turning two of America's most storied airlines into the world's biggest carrier.

Delta and Northwest closed the deal just hours after the Justice Department said it had no antitrust objections.

The company will keep Delta's name, Atlanta headquarters, and chief executive Richard Anderson, who used to run Northwest. Delta executives said travelers will see no differences right away. New uniforms will be phased in next year, and Northwest's fleet with its signature red tail will be repainted over the next two years, the companies said.

"I will tell you from a customer perspective and a frequent-flier perspective it is business as usual," Anderson said.

The combined airline would carry more traffic than either Air France-KLM (currently the world's largest) or American Air-

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Local

PSS, CUC agree that PSS owes $1.3 million

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

After reconciling their records, the Public School System now concedes that it owes the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. more than $1.3 million.

The two entities reconciled their records after CUC executive director Antonio Muña said PSS owed the utility company $1.8 million in overdue debt. PSS officials had denied they owed any money until the *Saipan Tribune*, via the Open Government Act, looked at billing records and statements and discovered they owed the money.

Muña had said the money from PSS, along with $1.6 million due from the CNMI government, would help pay for the $6-million Aggreko generators, including the $504,000 that was due earlier this month.

Muña and PSS officials determined that the government would pay $414,214.76 for the month of October 2006, because at that time the government was paying for PSS' utilities, Lori Grizzard, acting PSS Finance director, said earlier this month.

However, at a Board of Education meeting yesterday, board member Herman Guerrero said Finance Secretary Eloy Inos told him PSS must pay the more than $400,000.

When Inos was asked about the government's debt yesterday, he said he was unaware the government owed money. He said the government continues to pay CUC for utility usage, but he did not have the exact figures. There is always an outstanding balance, he added.

Muña could not be reached for comment yesterday because he was off island, but earlier he had said, "At this point, we're leaning on the government. We cannot not lean on that. We really need to have everyone participate in this process."

Although Muña said he anticipated an increase in revenue from residential customers once the emergency generators stabilized power, he said the revenue would not be realized for 60 days.

Under the 12-month Aggreko contract, CUC paid $1.5 million as a down payment and is required to pay $504,000 each month.

The first payment was due Oct. 12. On Oct. 15 Muna said CUC had collected the money from customers—be it individuals, commercials and government agencies. CUC was waiting for the billing from Aggreko before they finalized the payment, he said.

Constitutional amendment aims to boost MVA budget

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
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BUSINESS EDITOR

CNMI House Floor Leader Joseph Camacho (R-Saipan) is poised to introduce a proposed amendment to the CNMI's Constitution today aimed at ensuring the local tourism office, the Marianas Visitors Authority, has an annual budget comprising at least 7 percent of the Commonwealth government's general revenues.

The amendment, H.L.I. 16-21, would guarantee the MVA's annual funding and stipulates that any money remaining in its budget at the close of each fiscal year would be placed in a "special account" to pay for "tourism related programs and projects." The MVA's executive directors, it adds, would manage the account.

"The tourism industry is the primary industry of the CNMI and as the garment industry revenues are declining, it is more

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Newly married woman gets severe beating

By FERDIE DELA TORRE
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REPORTER

A woman who was just recently married suffered multiple injuries when her intoxicated husband allegedly beat her up repeatedly in different places on Saipan Friday last week.

The suspect allegedly used in the assault many objects—a screwdriver, stainless steel chopsticks, a broken computer's jagged end, a pen, and bottle of liquor.

The victim sustained injuries to the face, neck, arms, and legs, police said.

The suspect, Fernando Valentine, 40, was arrested yesterday for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, assault, disturbing the peace, and criminal mischief.

A $15,000 cash bail was initially imposed for Valentine's temporary liberty. He was set to appear yesterday afternoon for a bail hearing in the Superior Court.

Detective Andrea C. Ozawa stated in her report that the victim and Valentine, who were just married in August, had an argument in their house in Chalan Piao last Thursday.

Valentine left the house and returned intoxicated at 4am. He woke up his wife, instructed her to pack his clothes and follow him to their car. To avoid further arguments and not disturb their neighbors, she followed his instructions.

The suspect allegedly brought the victim to different places on the island, where he would beat her up each time they stopped. He also allegedly threatened to kill her, suspecting that she was having an affair.

During the attack, the suspect used a stainless steel chopstick to try to stab his wife. He also broke their laptop computer into two pieces and stuck its jagged ends onto her neck. He also took a pen and shoved its writing end into her nostrils.

At one point, Valentine stopped the beating long enough so he could buy beer and water at a store in San Antonio.

The victim convinced the suspect to bring her to G4S Company in Garapan so he would see the "boyfriend's" profile.

At G4S, the victim was able to get the attention of one of the staff to get help. When Valentine learned that the police were on their way, he went to the restroom and disappeared.

Fitial plays coy on his delegate bet

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is playing it coy about his candidate for congressional delegate.

Fitial in a press conference yesterday said he is supporting a candidate, but offered no hints on the person's identity.

"I know that the person I'm supporting behind the scene will win," said Fitial.

The Commonwealth on Tuesday, Nov. 4, will elect its first-ever nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. Approximately 13,000 voters have registered to cast their ballots in the historic election.

"Go out and vote for the best guy," Fitial urged the voters. Asked to elaborate, he said, "The best guy would be whoever wins. It's like when people ask me if I have found a running mate. I always answer, 'Yes, but I don't know who he is'."

Nine candidates are running for CNMI delegate: Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio, incumbent Sen. Luis Crisostimo, former Sen. David Cing, retired judge Juan Lizama, Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Gregorio Sablan, high school teacher John Davis, television talk show host John Oliver Gonzales, businessman Chong Won, and Saipan municipal councilor Felipe Atalig.

Fitial also refused to comment on his preference for U.S. president. While acknowledging the impact of U.S. politics on Commonwealth affairs, the governor hinted that having a Democrat or a Republican in the White House does not matter as far as his administration is concerned.

"I don't have a problem since I'm Covenant," he said.

Fitial, formerly a key member of the local Republican Party, helped establish the Commonwealth's Covenant Party in 2001.

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Jurors deliberate in medical malpractice complaint

Six jurors in the Superior Court started deliberations yesterday on a medical malpractice lawsuit filed by a police officer and his wife against the Commonwealth Health Center over a failed vasectomy surgery.

The deliberation began shortly after the plaintiff and the defense completed the closing arguments in the lawsuit filed by Police Officer Eric David and his wife, Tanya.

A motions hearing was set yesterday afternoon before Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo.

Attorney George Hasselback is counsel for the David couple. Assistant Attorney General David Lochabay is representing CHC and the CNMI government.

The couple, together with their child, lodged in 2004 the lawsuit against Dr. John Yarofalir, who allegedly performed the vasectomy surgery on the officer sometime in 2004. Yarofalier was subsequently replaced by the government as defendant.

The complaint stated that the failed vasectomy surgery on the officer resulted in Tanya's pregnancy, delaying her plans to complete her studies and eventually join the Army.

She was allegedly made to take a prescription drug without her knowledge that she was pregnant, which was believed to have resulted in her baby's hearing problem. ***(FDT)***

NORTHWEST

From Page 1

lines, the biggest U.S. carrier. But antitrust regulators rejected worries that the new Delta would hurt consumers, or competition.

Federal regulators wrote in a statement that "the proposed merger between Delta and Northwest is likely to produce substantial and credible efficiencies that will benefit U.S. consumers and is not likely to substantially lessen competition."

It noted that other carriers also offer flights on most of the routes where Delta and Northwest compete with each other. The Justice Department also said consumers should benefit from savings on expenses for airport operations, technology, and suppliers. The companies have said they can cut $2 billion a year in expenses once they combine.

The decision caps a six-month Justice Department investigation, which was closed without objection to the deal from the department.

Also Wednesday, an attorney for 28 air travelers who had sued to block the deal said the case had settled. The attorney, Joseph Alioto, declined to release terms of the settlement, which he said was worked out on Friday and finalized over the last few days.

Kevin Mitchell, chairman of the Business Travel Coalition, said the merger will mean higher fares and fewer connections between mid-size cities and business centers. He said he was concerned about an enlarged Delta and other possible airline combinations and joint ventures.

"A first priority of the new administration should be to reconsider the rationale behind antitrust-immunized alliances and the market power they can exercise to the detriment of consumers," said Mitchell, who testified before Congress in April against airline mergers.

When Delta Air Lines Inc. and Northwest Airlines Corp. announced their deal in April, it was widely thought that they were looking for government approval before a new President took office. Shareholders approved the merger on Sept. 25.

It was also expected to be the first of a wave of airline mergers. That never happened, despite talks between most of the big carriers. Two of the most vociferously pro-merger airlines, UAL Corp.'s United and US Airways Group Inc., backed away from a potential deal in May. Before that, Continental Airlines Inc. had considered, but rejected, pursuing a deal with United.

Still, American Airlines and British Airways are sure to point to Wednesday's approval for Delta as they seek antitrust immunity for their own proposed alliance, which would let them work together on pricing and scheduling for flights across the Atlantic. Virgin Atlantic Airways has opposed the request, saying it would hurt competition. BA and American also want to add Iberia to the deal.

Tim Smith, a spokesman for American, said the Delta-Northwest combination "changes the landscape of the industry, as well as the challenges we face in the months and years ahead."

American believes its deal with BA would "provide the same type of consumer benefits by by allowing us to compete more effectively with other alliances that already have such immunity," Smith said.

American's pilots are lobbying Congress to block the deal with BA.

"Capacity-sharing arrangements such as what American Airlines is seeking to enter into are actually a form of industry consolidation, potentially resulting in yet more hard-working Americans' jobs being eliminated," said Lloyd Hill, president of the pilots' union at American.

Continental Airlines Inc. is seeking approval to join a trans-Atlantic partnership of several airlines including United and Lufthansa, which already have antitrust immunity to work together on trans-Atlantic prices and schedules. Continental officials declined to comment.

Calyon Securities analyst Ray Neidl said that while airline mergers "never initially work out as planned," this combination appears to be clear for completion as many details have already been dealt with.

PSS

From Page 1

have data on why there was a decrease, but she suspects it has to do with families moving off island.

At a regularly scheduled Board of Regents meeting yesterday, board member Herman Guerrero asked if the numbers declined because students dropped out of the school system.

Federal Programs officer Tim Thornburgh said that, according to data from the U.S. Department of Education, PSS has 35 to 40 students, or 4.5 percent, of students dropping out each year. The U.S. average is 4.8 percent, he added.

"It just shows that it's mobility," Thornburgh said.

Of the 10,913 students enrolled this year, 5,477 are in elementary, 4,922 are in secondary, 21 are in ADI, 61 are in Early Intervention Service, and 462 are in Headstart.

According to the data, all of the elementary schools in the Public School System saw a decrease in enrollment, with San Vicente Elementary seeing the largest decrease. Last year, 766 students were enrolled and this year 684 are enrolled, an 11-percent decrease.

Of the nine secondary schools, four schools—Hopwood Jr. High, Tinian Jr. High, Marianas High and Kagman High—saw an increase in enrollment. Four schools—Chacha Jr. High, Rota Jr. High, Saipan Southern High and Tinian High—saw a decrease, while Rota High School remained the same.

The number of students identifying themselves as Chamorro or Carolinian also decreased. Chamorros saw an 8-percent decrease, while Carolinians decreased by 7 percent. The majority of students are once again U.S. citizens—92 percent identify themselves as citizens of the United States.

There are 510 classroom teachers this year, four fewer than last year. Also, there are 12 fewer teacher aids.

As of Oct. 1, 65.7 percent of teachers were fully compliant with PRAXIS I and II, according to the data.

US

From Page 1

Grey told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that because of the hiring qualification criteria, less than 20 of local Immigration officers may qualify.

Grey said one of the criteria is that persons cannot occupy a law enforcement position in the federal government if they are 37 years old or older.

"Right there, that excludes 21 of our people immediately. They don't have a chance with that criteria [sic] in place. Twenty-one of our people are automatically excluded," he said.

The official said some local Immigration officers have been in service for 11 years, 16 years, and 21 years.

"Twenty-one years of career at Immigration out the window and they are not qualified under the federal law to be picked up. That's incredible," Grey said.

He said there are 72 employees at Immigration in the CNMI, including three at the U.S. Passport's Office.

Grey said the three at the Passport's Office will not be affected by the federalization law because the office will continue operating.

"But you have 68 officers and one admin officer that are affected by this. They've lost their career and the economy in the CNMI being what it is, jobs are scarce. Even within the government, it is tightening up. It is a frightful situation for these folks. Sixty-eight families now have to worry what the future is going to be," Grey said.

The director said he received instructions and the preparation manual for the exam for the positions last Friday so he informed the Immigration staff yesterday about it through a memo.

The signing up for the test will be from Nov. 3 to 17, 2008. The testing will be on Saipan between Dec. 3 and Dec. 17, 2008.

Grey said there are indications that 60 officers will be hired for the CNMI.

He said his concern is that the procedures do not appear to be consistent with what the law says.

The director pointed out that a provision in the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 with respect to the hiring of personnel states that, "To the maximum extent practicable and consistent with the satisfactory performance of assigned duties under applicable law, the Attorney General, Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Labor shall recruit and hire personnel from among qualified U.S. citizens and national applicants residing in the Commonwealth to serve as staff in carrying out operations…"

"Key words in this section of the law include, 'to the maximum extent practicable.' Being lumped into the general population of candidates does not appear to meet this maximum extent verbiage," Grey said.

"We are very concerned because what they've done now with these criteria does not give us any consideration. We're on the same boat in competing with the rest of the nations for these jobs," he said.

"This federalization has taken 69 immigration employees and inspectors and one admin officer and put them out of a career. Their immigration career is basically over June 1st, 2009," Grey said.

TRANSPARENCY

From Page 1

prohibits the release of certain litigation-related information that the government's opponent in a lawsuit could not otherwise get in court.

How the CNMI is funding the lawsuit, Baka added, must remain a secret because the deep-pocketed federal government might use the information to run the Commonwealth out of court.

"The Legislature, in its wisdom, when they passed the Open Government Act, recognized that knowing the details of a litigation opponent's budget—the funding terms, the temporal limitations, the amounts expended so far, expert witness invoices, or other financial details relevant to a controversy—would confer a great advantage against the adversary, particularly if the opponent has fewer financial resources," Baka said.

He added, "If they [federal government] know how much money we have, and what percentage we've used up, for example, then the feds could just bring a flurry of motions. They could run us out of court; we're going to lose not on the merits. We just want a fair day in court. We want to make sure that that is not sabotaged, whether intentionally or inadvertently, by people disclosing things that the federal government does not have the right to know. It's not trying to keep it from the people, it's to make sure that the United States doesn't get it. It has to be kept from the people until the litigation is over."

Rep. Tina Sablan on Wednesday accused the government of abusing public trust when Fitial refused to disclose financial information about the lawsuit. She said there is no legitimate reason for such information, including fee arrangements, the terms of contracts financed using public funds, and sources of funding, to be withheld from the public.

"Not when the lawsuit has been filed on behalf of the people of the CNMI, and not when public funds are being used. The governor's refusal to disclose such information amounts to one more abuse of the public trust," she said.

But Baka, continuing his defense of the administration's action, said that transparency is "not the highest virtue." He went on to compare Sablan's request to filing an OGA request for health records from the government-run Commonwealth Health Center or for answers to the test questions from Northern Marianas College.

"If you want to file an Open Government Act request for the [NMC] teachers to give the answers, I would suggest that any judge in the Commonwealth would rule against you. This is exactly the same situation. The Legislature [that passed the OGA] says no, we're not going to sabotage every single case that we file by giving out all the non-discoverable information to our opponent before the case is finished. As soon as the case is over, of course, you get every single thing," he said.

"But again, transparency is not the highest virtue," he added. "That's the key issue. The Legislature recognized that, and we are here to follow the law. If I were to advise the governor to give out something that he is forbidden from giving out, I would be doing a bad job. I would be negligent in my duty. I might as well just go and move to Guam," he added.

For his part, Fitial said that lawmakers are missing the larger issue, which, he said, is that the lawsuit was necessary to uphold the rights of the Commonwealth pursuant to the Covenant.

"The Legislature seems to be caught up in their own political world. They are not able to look at the big picture. This lawsuit is only asking the court to clarify the authority of the federal government to impose their labor law. I strongly believe that labor is a local government issue," Fitial said.

CONSTITUTIONAL

From Page 2

important than ever that the government invest in the growth of the tourism industry so as to insure the economic wellbeing of the CNMI," the legislation says. "A thriving tourism industry will translate into more jobs, more business opportunities, better infrastructure and basic services, and more activities and facilities that can be enjoyed by locals as well as visitors."

In an interview, Camacho echoed those sentiments, saying the proposed amendment will let MVA operate on sound financial footing without worrying whether its budget will be cut. The funding that the bill would give to MVA, he noted, is a slight increase from the amount it gets currently, which is now at roughly 5 percent of the local government's general revenues.

"Tourism is basically our one and only economic engine right now," said Camacho. "This will let the MVA focus on promoting the CNMI without having to worry about the budget."

Ada: Monument economic data 'speculative'

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
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BUSINESS EDITOR

CNMI Commerce Secretary Michael Ada on Thursday pointed to a host of shortcomings he sees in an economic analysis released by the Pew Charitable Trust that details the potential economic benefits of the White House's proposal to establish a national marine monument in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Ada

In an Oct. 20 letter to Coastal Resources Management director John Joyner, Ada says the study, penned by University of Guam economist Dr. Thomas Iverson, is based on hastily analyzed information that might be outdated or invalid. Moreover, he says, the study includes adjustments to certain economic figures Iverson viewed as "overly optimistic or a poorly constructed measure of multiplier effects," adding that these changes cast doubt on the accuracy of its findings.

"The report provides figures which are speculative in nature and applies a simple economic model to derive a projected estimated value of the proposed [monument]," Ada writes.

In his report, Iverson detailed a host of potential benefits the proposed monument could hold for the CNMI. Among them, Iverson said the monument could attract $10 million each year in spending to the islands, much of that derived from a possible increase in tourism, and create new jobs. In contrast, he wrote, the costs associated with the monument could be comparatively low, at around $1 million.

Yet in his rebuttal of Iverson's analysis, Ada notes that rising fuel costs could raise the price for any visitors to the CNMI who might wish to travel to the monument and the only reliable source of funding linked to the plan would be the federal government's operating budget for managing the waters.

"Due to a quantifiable rising trend in the cost of travel within the CNMI, it stands to reason that accessibility to the [monument] for purposes of tourism will be severely limited, thus impacting the projected estimates of additional sales revenues and indirect job creation as a result of a monument designation as stated in the report," Ada writes.

In addition, Ada points to the report's omission of data on the potential economic value of the resources within the proposed boundaries of the monument, resources to which the business sector could lose access if the plan moves forward.

"While the report is optimistic about the potential economic value of [the monument], it doesn't acknowledge any potential economic value that may be sacrificed as a result of inaccessibility to resources should [the waters] receive monument designation," Ada writes. "In times of economic despair, it is natural to favor any project which would have an economic benefit to the CNMI; however this proposal does not provide that particular dynamic."

Ada's analysis comes after Rep. Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) and Gov. Felix Camacho of Guam this week came out in opposition to the White House's plan. President Bush is expected to issue a decision on the monument sometime before the close of his term in January.

A spokesman for the Pew Charitable Trust declined to respond to Ada's analysis, saying talks on the monument are now in the hands of local government officials and White House staff.

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'We came to learn English and volunteer at CHC'

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In a letter to the president of La Paloma Co., Joseph Santos, then-deputy secretary for Hospital Administration at the Commonwealth Health Center, said he looked forward to providing a "meaningful internship experience" to a group of Korean nurses.

He also said he looked forward to meeting the nine Korean nurses once they arrived in the Commonwealth, according to a letter sent by Santos to La Paloma president Jay Kim, dated July 2.

The nine nurses said they came to Saipan hoping to learn English and work as volunteers at CHC. Kim did not promise jobs for them at CHC, they said.

"I have a lot of experience in emergency situations," said Rachell Yang, a nurse for 12 years in Korean. "…I want to speak English here and eventually in the U.S."

According to the letter, Santos said CHC would require the nurses to be licensed through the CNMI licensing board prior to working at CHC. CHC would also have to examine their education backgrounds to ensure they have completed the basic studies of nursing. The nurses were also required to present a nursing degree, transcripts from their university and two reference letters.

All of the nurses have passed the NCLEX test and have applied for and received the CNMI board license. They are currently enrolled in a communications for nurses' class each day from 4pm to 6pm, but would like to intern at the hospital in the morning, E. Roland Brown, their communications instructor, said.

The nurses paid $6,000 for the three months in the CNMI, which includes living expenses, rent for apartments, licensing fees, fees for classroom instruction and fees for a visa extension. La Paloma received a commission of $1,200.

The nurses arrived on island in September, and Sun-Hee Song, one of the nurses, said that Kim, after meeting with Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, told her that they would start at the beginning of October.

In a statement, Villagomez said an internship program needs to have sanctioned curriculum and staff, and CHC is not currently able to do that.

He said he is fearful to have the nurses' work with patients if their English skills are not up to par, which could cause a delay in providing patient treatment.

"Three seconds makes a difference in peoples' lives. That's where my concern for litigation comes in," Villagomez said.

Song, who has been a nurse in Korea for 20 years, said they do not want to be in charge of a patient, but to take part in clinical volunteer work.

Brown said the nurses are discouraged.

"They're experienced nurses," he said. "How can that not be a win-win for the hospital?"

DelRosario: Court's order to seize DPL assets unfair

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands says it was unfair of the court to order the seizure of DPL's funds to pay a land compensation claimant.

Public Lands Secretary John S. Del Rosario maintained yesterday that the agency is not responsible for compensating landowners whose properties have been taken for public purposes. He said that such properties are "government land," and not "public land."

"It's unfair. Why are you taking from the indigenous people to pay for something that is government land. It is the obligation of the CNMI government to resolve that. But then, we all know that the financial situation of the CNMI government is not good. Even if the legislators wanted to appropriate the money, I don't know if they could find it," said Del Rosario.

He said the DPL attorney is still reviewing how the agency will deal with the court order.

The U.S. District Court for the NMI on Tuesday ordered the U.S. Marshal to seize DPL funds held in bank accounts, goods, and any other property to satisfy over $263,000 in judgment, costs, and interest to Antonio S. Camacho. The court order was designed to enforce a 2006 judgment, which found DPL's predecessor, the defunct Marianas Public Lands Authority, liable to pay $234,000 to Camacho for the government's taking of his land in Gualo Rai. To date, the Legislature has not appropriated funds to pay Camacho.

Judge Alex Munson says the court can enforce its judgments against the CNMI government even if the Legislature has not appropriated money to satisfy those judgments.

"The failure of the Legislature to fulfill its constitutional mandate does not, cannot, and will not prevent the court from taking all necessary steps to ensure that its judgments are enforceable," Munson said. "A court that cannot enforce its judgments must forever close its doors, as it will have become nothing more than an historical curiosity."

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Giant coconut crab causes stir in Pohnpei

POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia (Kaselehlie Press/PIR)—Workers cleaning the land below the unfinished Nan Madol Hotel in Nett on Tuesday, Oct. 21, captured a coconut crab that is the largest in Pohnpei's recorded history.

The employees jockeyed for "finder's rights." They wanted to take it home and eat it.

Marie Olter, who owns the Rusty Anchor bar that operates in the building, would have none of that and notified the Conservation Society of Pohnpei.

Eugene Joseph was sent by CSP to examine the monstrous crustacean with claws nearly as large as a grown man's hand.

"It was fighting us all the way so we couldn't really spread it out for measurement," Joseph said. "As best I could tell it had a two and a half foot leg span but it was probably bigger."

He said the world record leg span for a coconut crab was long ago set at three feet. The record crab was discovered on one of the Caroline Islands of Micronesia but Joseph could not determine which island. He did say that he was absolutely certain that Tuesday's discovery is the biggest coconut crab found in Pohnpei's recorded history.

Though there are coconut crabs on Pohnpei's mainland, the majority of them are on atolls such as Pohnpei's And island, an atoll approximately 25 miles northwest of Pohnpei's big island.

Baby crabs spend the first 30 days of their lives just offshore in the ocean. The rest of their lives are spent on land. They are vegetarians and live on coconuts and other vegetable matter.

Joseph estimated that the one found on Tuesday, Oct. 21, is 20 to 30 years old.

Olter has not decided what to do with the crab yet. For now it is living inside an old construction tool box where a comfortable and familiar environment has been arranged for it. The floor is covered in sand, coral, and rocks. There is a large clam shell behind which the crab can hide so that it can sleep, which it does for most of the day. There is water to drink and plenty of coconuts, its favorite food.

There has been talk of searching for the crab's mate before it is released to the land where it was found. Olter said that she is hesitant to do that because so many people know about the crab and the land on which it was found. She doesn't want people hunting for it. Her earliest plan involved the possibility of transporting the crab to And atoll but that idea was quickly dismissed because Pohnpei mainland fishermen often visit the island to fish. When they are not fishing they scour the land for crabs for the market. The monster crab would make a valuable prize at the Pohnpei markets.

Joseph offered to help Rusty Anchor make the crab an attraction for the bar by helping to enhance the crab's current environment and writing information to be posted on its cage so that customers can view the record crab.

He said that coconut crabs are not an endangered species but that the Conservation Society of Pohnpei is grateful for the way the discovery was handled. "If a local crab hunter had found it, it would have been a big dinner!"

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

OCTOBER 31, 2000

OPA recommendations ignored

The Office of the Public Auditor is closely working with the commission created by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to ensure swift actions are taken by agencies on recommendations issued by the autonomous government accounting agency. This, as the OPA disclosed that about 82 percent of all recommendations issued as of end-June 1999 are considered delinquents because of the respective government agencies' failure to put in place immediate solutions. A report released Monday revealed that OPA has issued 34 recommendations in the first half of the calendar year, which add up to the existing 194 suggestions still to be acted upon by offices that were audited.

Second Jollibee store opens in January

Saipan is in for an exciting hamburger war when popular Filipino fast food restaurant, Jollibee, opens it second store on the island during the latter part of January 2000, in what appears to be a move that levels the playing field with American giant McDonald's. Construction of the second Jollibee restaurant on Saipan, located adjacent to the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa, has been ongoing since July this year and is expected to be completed in time for the scheduled grand opening early next year.

OCTOBER 31, 2001

Security tight on election day

The Department of Public Safety will impose tight security measures at each of the 11 designated polling places on Saturday to ensure a peaceful and uninterrupted 2001 general elections. Police Major Clyde Norita yesterday unveiled the Public Safety Response Plan that carries new provisions in defense against the worst possible scenario, amid the spate of terrorist threats. "The new provisions are in light of the possible bomb threats, possible attempts of chemical or biological threat that would somehow disrupt the voting process," Norita told reporters during a press conference. The response plan, which was submitted to the Board of Elections and distributed to political parties for review, strictly prohibits party supporters to stand by the fence-line or gate of the polling places.

None of Stanley's 3 bills made it into law

If legislative performance is based on the number of bills introduced, Rep. Jesus T. Attao would be at the top of the House of Representatives heap, with 50 bills authored since the start of the 12th CNMI Legislature. However, if the performance index is based on the number of bills introduced that actually made it into laws, Reps. Malua T. Peter and Oscar M. Babauta would both share the spotlight, with seven bills apiece that were signed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio into law. In both instances, though, Rep. Stanley T. Torres comes out as the cellar dweller, with the least number of bills introduced—three—of which none made it into law.

OCTOBER 31, 2002

NMI to join forces with Guam, Hawaii to seek Compact-Impact reimbursement font

The U.S. and Foreign Affairs Committee is pressing to collect millions of dollars of Compact-Impact reimbursement owed to the Commonwealth by forging a partnership with other impacted entities, Guam and Hawaii. Panel chairman Rep. William S. Torres reported to the House of Representatives yesterday that his committee has been meeting with Guam and Hawaii delegates to set out a unified and defensible plan that would earn the support of the U.S. Congress. "We have been submitting reports year after year to the Department of the Interior with the estimated amount of expenditures on behalf of the Compact- Impact. Unfortunately, the CNMI and Hawaii have not been getting its share as much as what Guam has received.

NMIA submits new workers' compensation tariff manual

The Northern Marianas Insurance Association has submitted to the Office of Insurance Commission a new tariff and underwriting manual with tailored classifications that would provide uniformity in the workers' compensation tariff. The new manual will prevent insurance firms from cheating on workers' tariff and compensation rates. If found in violation of the new schedule, insurance firms will be slapped with unfair practice charges or face a possible closure. The new tariff would standardize the premium rates, local insurance officials said.

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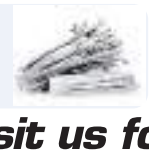

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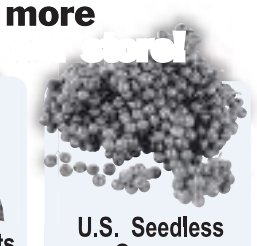

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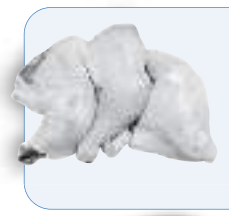

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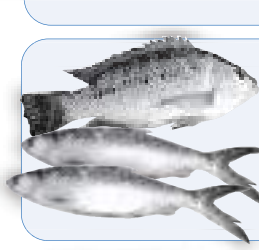

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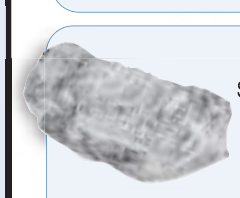

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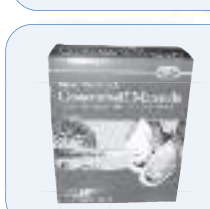

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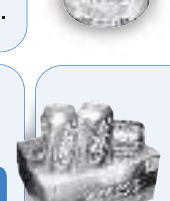

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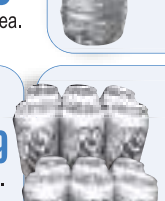

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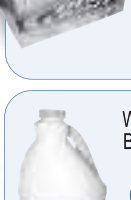
$1.39



Western Family Bleach Regular Ultra 96oz.
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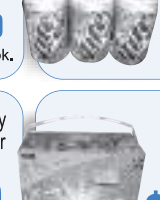

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EDITORIAL

Dirtier air

The Environmental Protection Agency is pushing to issue an ill-advised rule that would allow old, pollution-spewing power plants to increase deadly emissions without restriction. This should not happen. If it does, it will be yet another astonishing decision by an administration that insists that its record on the environment and climate change is misunderstood and underappreciated.

Since 2005, the EPA has been trying to change the new source review (NSR) provisions of the Clean Air Act. The NSR provisions require pollution controls based on how power plant emissions will affect surrounding communities. Currently, existing power plants must undergo NSR whenever they make renovations that increase their annual emissions. The Bush administration would change the review trigger from annual emissions to maximum hourly emissions. This is a problem because repairs to those old power plants might leave the maximum hourly emissions unchanged but increase total operating hours, meaning annual emissions could rise.

The EPA has argued that there was no need to worry about increased pollution as a result of the new NSR rule because of the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR). This regulation sought to reduce the amounts of contaminants from power plants that settle downwind in another state by 70 percent for sulfur dioxide and 60 percent for nitrogen oxide. It covered the District of Columbia and 28 states in the Midwest and the East. In announcing the new NSR rule in 2005, the EPA said it was needed to "harmonize" and "complement" CAIR and other clean air rules. But here's the next problem: The CAIR rule was vacated by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in July.

Undaunted, the EPA is pressing forward. In response to a request in June from Rep. Henry A. Waxman, D-Calif., chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, the agency revealed the results of three computer models that showed that its proposed NSR rule would increase carbon dioxide emissions by 74 million tons annually. Mr. Waxman contends that this would be "roughly equivalent to the total annual CO2 emissions of about 14 average coal-fired power plants."

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Sen. Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., as well as the Natural Resources Defense Council, have called on the EPA to undertake a new analysis of the impact of its proposed NSR rule, given that the CAIR regulation has been nullified. They also demanded that the agency publish a notice for public comment on any new analysis. We agree. Instituting this rule would be willful disregard of science, the intent of the Clean Air Act and the public's right to have a voice in such an important decision. And it would cement the Bush administration's say-one-thing-and-do-another reputation on climate change. The planet is warming faster than scientists had predicted. What the EPA might do would make it worse.

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TEOTWAWKI syndrome

By ED STEPHENS

Ed holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

"TEOTWAWKI" looks like the name of some sort of Polynesian god, but it's merely a handy abbreviation for paranoia that is very un-tropical in origins. No, "The End Of The World As We Know It" isn't a fashionable topic (yet) on Saipan, but we get the echoes from the West, where it's cool to indulge worries that the world is doomed.

I wouldn't really bring this up, except that I know there's enough legitimate gloom on Saipan. There's nothing to be gained by adding TEOTWAWKI syndrome to the mix.

After all, the world (or that part of it that's behaving itself) is doing better every year, particularly Asia.

Now, it's true, of course, that the world's largest economy (the U.S., of course) is facing a fundamental fall from economic grace. And, it's also true that the toxic American debt and other securities will poison many of the globe's economies. And, yes, a global recession is probably very likely. And, moreover, I'll admit I can't guarantee that the U.S. problems won't trigger some cascading series of global credit bombs. And, on a really worrisome note, it's possible, of course, that some wacky oil crisis might screw up everything. So I'm not smug about the world's future.

But I am still optimistic. And if a global recession helps purge the bad debt from the system, then it's probably a blessing in the long run anyway.

I travel a lot. I get to interact with real people doing real work. And it seems to me that the advanced world is still advancing. I hear optimism. I see optimism. Yes, lately, it's often guarded optimism in may cases, but it's still optimism. And I mean the intelligent optimism of the intrinsically productive, not the delusional optimism of the misguided.

After all, business, internationally, is easier to do now than at any time that I can remember. Hey, it's not too early to start thinking about Thanksgiving, so here's a list of things that I think about:

1). Communications technology lets anyone communicate with the entire world for essentially free. Heck, you can use Yahoo Messenger to video conference with your notebook computer from Shirley's while you sip your coffee. That was the stuff of science fiction not too long ago.

2). Financial services flow across borders efficiently. You and I can remit, or receive money, internationally, with ease.

3). Currency markets are highly efficient. And you don't have to be rich or sophisticated to use them to your advantage.

4). Trade barriers, from what I see (I don't do fancy studies of this), are lower than they used to be a decade ago.

5). Shipping and courier services are getting better all the time.

6). Travel is easier than ever in most places; just wave a credit card, and you can pretty much go anywhere you want in comfort. Can you name an era with better and cheaper travel? No.

Overall, smart people with some degree of motivation have never had it better. I know, for example, people in the Philippines who are no longer at the mercy of their national economy; thanks to the Internet, they simply telecommute internationally, earning three times what they'd otherwise make. That's not just a windfall for them; it's a windfall for their clients or employers, too. I hope this trend continues. Why wouldn't it?

The end-of-the-world talk emanates from the West, which is facing gloomy times. Some sense doom because of their economic circumstances; they were told they could consume more than they produce, a folly that does not go unpunished. Others indulge in apocalyptic fantasies. And still others mine the world's headlines to find crusades or grievances to attach themselves to. Add all this up, and there's a lot of TEOTWAWKI talk.

Well, Saipan has enough worries of its own. Don't make things worse by catching a dose of TEOTWAWKI syndrome, it will cause you to overlook the good opportunities out there.

Letter to the Editor

I don't believe

I could not help noticing in both the *Saipan Tribune* and *Marianas Variety*'s Friday, Oct. 24, 2008 edition, a letter to the editor from Ed Propst claiming to have "not been paid" to write his full page letter in support of the Bush Legacy Marine Monument. As you readers may or may not be aware, Pew bought thousands of copies of his *MP Magazine*. That seems like a pretty significant purchase to me and may just have swayed Mr. Propst to "believe" along with his Pew benefactors. They must have a big coffee table to put all those magazines, huh?

While we certainly appreciate Ed telling us all how we are supposed to interact with each other by supplying us with "new rules of engagement," I for one am not too pleased with his accidental memory loss regarding Pew's generous payment to his business interest.

Maybe a little of the transparency he likes so much would be appropriate here.

This is a typical tactic for Pew—spreading large sums of money around in return for people to 'believe" seems to be this group's main stock in trade. Well, that and conning young schoolchildren to signing their petition.

I suggest you just say no to the rush, rush job, just so President Bush sign the "IT" before he leaves the White House. It's all hot air and no written promises, Bush legacy monument. They want to take our ancestral waters and trade us a brass plaque and a pat on the head. It's a bad, bad deal.

In closing, let us wait for McCain or Obama. We will get a much better "deal" and the "IT" for our future generations! CNMI must and has the right to have a strong negotiating ground for the better and nothing less.

Rep. Stanley McGinnis Torres
Capital Hill, Saipan

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Editor's Note: The *Saipan Tribune* has made an effort in the months leading up to the Nov. 4 election to refrain from publishing letters to the editor endorsing specific candidates for the delegate position, as we consider the Op-Ed section not the proper forum for this. However, with only four more days to go before the election, we will be loosening that rule to give our readers a chance to find out why some people are voting for specific candidates.

Letters to the Editor

We need a lawyer in Congress

In the weeks leading up to the election I saw each candidate sell their platforms on why they should be the first delegate to Congress. I was quite intrigued with some of these candidates' platforms and campaign advertisements, which prompted me to put out this letter to the editor.

I saw former Senator Cing's advertisement selling the idea that a Democratic leadership in the U.S. Congress means that a Democratic delegate will be beneficial to the CNMI. While the Democrats are in control of both Houses of Congress the underlying fact is that there are "no guarantees" given the history of Congress that a Democratic delegate will do a better job than an Independent or Republican candidate.

The incumbent Republican candidate, Pete A., continues to bolster that he is an adamant supporter of federalization of immigration and labor and takes pride in being a negotiator of the Covenant. For many of us, we are now questioning Mr. Pete A. where in the Covenant did it say that our local Labor control was to be given up and why didn't you fight for these workers' rights who now will be affected because of your political interest. Quite frankly even the island of Guam controls their Department of Labor "locally."

Mr. Cing, what you do not inform the voters is that there are about 257 lawyers combined in both houses of the U.S. Congress. I believe that Mr. Juan Tudela Lizama would be a far better candidate pursuant to this fact.

In 1994 a case, Michel vs. Anderson, was filed in federal court by some U.S. congressmen trying to take away the right of territorial delegates from participating and voting in the Committee as a Whole. Luckily the U.S. Supreme Court held that suppressing the rights of the delegates was unconstitutional.

By the way, Pete A., where was the language to provide economic relief for the CNMI in the economic bailout that was passed? Some $192 million in tax rebates was provided to the U.S. Virgin Island and Puerto Rico while $30 million was provided to American Samoa. It's interesting because of those three territories the U.S. Congress knows that the CNMI is in far worse shape economically, especially after the damaging legislations that they enacted and which you *supported*.

On Nov. 4, 2008, I ask every voter to vote in the right direction of history and go for Juan T. Lizama. The 257 lawyers in the U.S. Congress tells you that we need to vote for the best possible candidate and that is Lizama.

Cris Rivera
Hawaii

Mutual agreement

Having listened extensively to discussions and debates on Pew's proposal to have U.S. President Bush designate the three northernmost islands into a marine monument, I find it very disturbing that a lot of people have the audacity to speak about Maug, Asuncion and Uracas, three islands they've never seen and don't know much about. The only information they have is what they hear on the streets and those who come out in the newspapers pretending to know something they've never even seen themselves.

What is even more disturbing is the fact that most, if not, all of these self-proclaimed scientists are not even stakeholders here in the CNMI. Just take a closer look at the names of those individuals who supposedly signed Pew's petition and even the faces of some supporters who appeared in the newspapers. You will find that most of them are outsiders. Please do not be misled by advocates who are probably getting paid handsomely to forcibly influence your decisions. Give yourself enough time and material to realistically learn as much as you can in order to make a sound and prudent decision.

You might want to take a look at some important observations I have to offer. Come Nov. 4, the good ol' U.S. of A will add a new chapter in the American history. From all indications, Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama would become the first African-American president of the United States. This is largely attributed to the fact that President Bush tainted the GOP because of his woefully poor economic policies. He has very little or no regard at all to people's culture and belief. With such arrogance, he might indeed designate our precious islands for his legacy and will definitely victimize us, just like he will victimize poor Sen. John McCain in the November polls.

My brothers and sisters, please remember that we are the stakeholders of our Motherland. Let us search our souls and speak to our ancestors and ask them for guidance before we give away this precious heritage they fought and died for in order to provide us with pride, dignity and ownership to our birthright inheritance. Just think about this for a moment. The Covenant that established the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America is based on four fundamental principles: 1) Economic Self-Sufficiency, 2) Educational Development, 3) Preservation of Culture/Resources, 4) Self-Government.

The Covenant is a very unique and a *sacred* document that was *mutually* agreed upon by both the CNMI and the United States. Article VIII, Section 806, Sub-section (b) of the Covenant explicitly states that any concern on any provision in the document must be discussed bilaterally and any resolution must be mutually agreed upon. But in the case of Pew's proposal, the United States seems to ignore these mutual consent provisions. Whatever happened to mutual respect and mutual consent? Oops, you're stepping on my toes.

A warm *pugua Hafa Adai* and please don't forget to spit responsibly.

Candy Taman
Former congressman

Col. Alexandro Sablan
Dandan Village

Elephant in the living room

Does anyone see the elephant in the living room? No one is talking about it in public; no one is looking at it in public. At public forums, any negative comments against another candidate were off-limits, except that John Gonzales nevertheless made personal attacks against most of the other candidates. And there have been no debates between the candidates.

But I see from the comments being made on various blogs and online comments to opinions and stories in the *Marianas Variety* that at least some people claim to know of actions and behavior of some candidates that are corrupt, politically embarrassing or, at a minimum, controversial.

These candidates are running to be elected as delegate to the United States House of Representatives. There should be no secrets. The public should be told of any previous unethical and illegal conduct of the candidates—and the candidates themselves should have the opportunity to explain or dispute such allegations.

We've seen the information regarding Juan Lizama's unethical and questionable conduct published in the newspaper. We've heard on the television of Felipe Atalig's criminal conviction. We've read in the newspaper of Gregorio Kilili Sablan's "past" and seen the Public Audit Report (Report No. AR-97-05) regarding payments made on contracts not performed by Gregorio C. Sablan. We've read various allegations against John Gonzales and Pete A. Tenorio and seen their questionable claims of accomplishments. We've see the false claims of Pete A. Tenorio that he secured certain funds to help our economy, such as increased Pell Grants and increased tax credits authorized by the Jobs and Growth Tax Reconciliation Act. We've heard allegations of Luis Crisostomo's money campaign.

It is unfortunate that the media has not investigated these allegations and made public the responses of the candidates and the results of such investigations, rather than having various allegations passing around secretly with or without evidence to support the allegations.

Jeanne H. Rayphand
Chairman, Committee to Elect John H. Davis, Jr.

My take on each of the candidates

"Use your brain, vote McCain" is the new shout out in the Republican campaign. Very true because if one listens carefully to the differences between the Obama and McCain policies, if the brain is utilized properly one will see that there is only one right campaign that so far is in the right track for the people.

I believe it is still important that voters exercise their right to vote the right way. I listen to both sides of the campaigns and when it comes to tax, foreign policies, homeland security, U.S. economy, war against terror and restoring trust in Washington, McCain continues to come out on top.

I share this because the same should apply here in the CNMI when it comes to voting for the first delegate to the U.S. Congress. "Use your brain, vote right." I've listened to most of the debates, checked the candidates' public records and listened to the words the candidates had to say and the following is my opinion:

Crisostomo: You are a qualified candidate, no doubt about it; however, you still have a lot of unfinished business here in the CNMI. CUC (Island wide killer) issue is destroying the islands economy and you are still in a seat capable of resolving the matter. In other words, you are still needed here and the people of the CNMI need you to resolve this so called "Island wide killer" before you can move on. It can be done here and now by business minded leaders, not later on in the US congress.

Davis: You are a good man but again your students here need you more than the CNMI people need you in the U.S. Congress. It's obvious you understand how US congress works but based on your responses to the questions in a number of the organized debates you failed to understand the true needs of the CNMI people.

Lizama: Your records dictate whether the people can trust you or not. So far records clearly indicate that the people cannot trust you to represent them in the US congress. Sorry but the facts against you were verified true and are available in public records and the media.

Cing: Whether you are still running or not, your move at the Chamber debate was smart. I gave you credit for taking yourself out. It takes courage to be honest and your decision to take yourself out is admirable.

Kilili: You have great plans, your answers during the debates were convincing; but again public records of your past is holding you back.

Pete: You were in the position to resolve our "Island wide killer" crisis too and you didn't. You were quick to close down your office but slow in resolving our crisis. I respect your experience but when you left Washington to run for this new office, a lot of the people felt you have abandoned their interest for your own interest in the new office. We continue to suffer and nobody in Washington now is looking out to bail us out from this CUC problem we (the people) didn't start it in the first place.

Atalig: Sorry but you did not sound convincing during the debates. At some point I thought you were tired and sounded like you needed a break.

Won: I feel your words, it's obvious you understand the people's needs; however, your lack of legislation experience placed you in a weaker spot as rebut by Davis. But! Based on your answers during the debates, the likelihood for you to represent the people is possible.

Oliver: Like Mr. Won, it's obvious you understand the people's needs. Your plans reflect those of the people of the CNMI. Looking into your records, you do have a clean record compared to some of the candidates. Keeping the people first at heart will definitely place you true in No.1

Again, these are just my opinion and as a resident of the CNMI, I just wanted to exercise my freedom of speech to share my opinion to all the eligible voters in the CNMI. Feel free to critique it in any way you feel like.

Alfonis M. Sound
From DanDan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

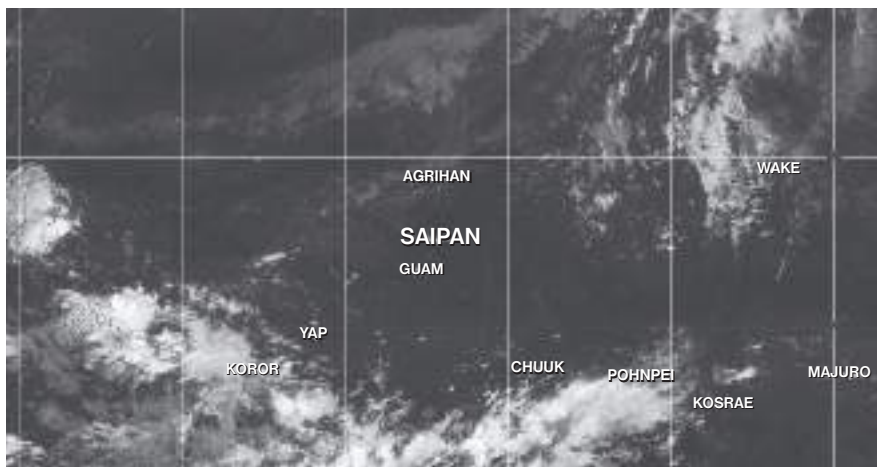
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲84	▼77
Palau	Thundershowers	▲85	▼77
Yap	Thundershowers	▲87	▼76
Chuuk	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲87	▼72
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼79
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲63	▼55
Beijing	Sunny	▲54	▼36
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲90	▼79
Honolulu	Showers	▲80	▼73
London	Cloudy	▲46	▼37
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲76	▼60
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲74	▼54
Miami	Cloudy	▲79	▼68
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲59	▼45
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲68	▼52
Paris	Rain	▲44	▼39
Pusan	Rain	▲67	▼47
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼56
Salem	Rain	▲60	▼45
San Francisco	Rain	▲67	▼59
Seoul	Rain	▲61	▼41
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲67	▼55
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲63	▼47

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weakening cold front enters the discussion area at 25N148E and stretches southwestward to north of the CNMI at 22N145E then turns into a shearline to end at 20N135E. Scattered showers are occurring along this feature south of Iwo To island within 100 miles of a line from 25N148E to 19N136E. An upper-level low is centered southeast of Minamitori Shima at 20N158E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms related to this low are forming between the Marianas and Wake Island within 150 miles of a line from 13N151E to 21N160E. A mid to upper-level trough runs eastward from the low across Wake Island to 17N175E then turns northeastward to beyond 180 at 20N. Widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the trough axis east of Wake Island or north of a line from 16N170E to 15N180. A monsoon trough extends eastward from the southern Philippines across Koror to a circulation centered south of Yap near 6N139E then turns southeastward as a surface trough to end at EQ145E. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the circulation southeast of Koror and just south of Yap between the equator and 8N from 135E to 145E. Converging west winds south of the monsoon trough are causing scattered showers southwest of Koror or west of a line from 4N132E to 7N132E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over a large area from south of Guam and eastward across Chuuk, Pohnpei and south of Kwajalein to just west of Majuro. This area is between 4N and 9N from 145E to 162E and also within 90 miles of a line from 7N162e to 6n170e.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:48AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:47AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:17PM Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
7:54PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:13AM	5:48 PM
Saturday	6:13AM	5:48 PM
Sunday	6:13AM	5:48 PM
Monday	6:14AM	5:47 PM
Tuesday	6:14AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:53AM	7:16PM
Saturday	8:46AM	8:05PM
Sunday	9:37AM	8:56PM
Monday	10:27AM	9:48PM
Tuesday	11:13AM	10:40PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota			
CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7
Saipan-Guam			
CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily
Saipan-Narita			
NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Osaka			
NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily
Saipan-Nagoya			
NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily
Saipan-Seoul			
OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7
Saipan-Busan			
OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5
Saipan-Shanghai			
FM 844	3:15am	5:55am	2,6
Rota-Guam			
CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7
Guam-Manila			
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan			
CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6
Guam-Saipan			
CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
Narita-Saipan			
NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily
Osaka-Saipan			
NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
Nagoya-Saipan			
NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily
Seoul-Saipan			
OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6
Busan-Saipan			
OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7
Shanghai-Saipan			
FM 843	7:50pm	2:15am+1	1,5
Guam-Rota			
CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6
Manila-Guam			
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Let's make sure our first voice...

...in the U.S. Congress

is the voice of experience!

PLEASE VOTE
PETE A. TENORIO - 5

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Pete A. Tenorio - Delegate

Shifts in traditional landownership

Traditional values is defined as principles or standards followed and revered by a people continuously from generation to generation. We have indigenous traditional values that have been conveyed to generations of indigenous siblings for more than 4,000 years.

There existed, since time immemorial, our relationship with the land and the sea in what's known as ancestral rights. It has been around with built-in protection employed since 4,800 years ago in the perpetuation of our peoplehood.

Through the centuries "our ways" have been changed by the descent of Christianity and conquerors on these isles. They have changed our affinity with the land and sea that once were strongly associated with family. This started during the Japanese administration of these isles.

This was subsequently followed by the phenomenon of the '50s through the '70s when our folks moved away from the land and sea into cash paying jobs. We morphed from subsistence to a cash economy. No longer is the head of the family required to farm the land or fish in the lagoon to provide sustenance for his family. It was easier to land a government or private job that puts food on the family dinner table. It was far more convenient than toiling the soil or braving the lagoon for traditional food gathering.

While traditional use of the land may have diminished, there's only the family end of it that has held the indigenous people in a tight social fabric. It has strengthened harmony and a sense of community through the years. We still refer to land as though it still is our savior. But take another look at our way of life. We no longer use the land as the venue for traditional family sustenance nor the sea for that matter.

I am not taking a definitive position that we should do away with Article XII under the NMI Constitution. After all, this is for governance to decide in 2011. But it is healthy to review its very genesis, essence and what's at stake in the consistent denial of real ownership to landowners in these isles for three decades now. If we wish to retain and sustain it, do you have compelling reasons to do so? If not, can you present reasonable arguments to repeal it?

Since 4,000 years ago, we have lived and respected nature's gifts to the indigenous people of the land and sea. These venues have been places where our forefathers have harvested the riches of the land and sea to support indigenous families. It is for this reason that we still hold high regards to both traditional venues used for food gathering. I know of no other reason than ancestral rights.

■ ■ ■

Essence of Covenant Agreement

The Covenant Agreement is the foundation that established our political relationship with the U.S. government. Its very provisions were premised on the United Nations' sacred documents or case laws supporting our rights to greater degree of self-government. It is the foundation and pillar upon which we have taken the first step in the journey of a thousand miles to island nation building.

As the CNMI progresses toward political maturity, its returning scholars will take over the torch of leadership to continue strengthening and refining our democratic institutions. The journey is a long one and often the key players are derailed by challenges that require real resolve to stay the course. It takes real resolve and the commitment to walk the entire stretch of problem solving right here in paradise.

In other words, the sacred agreement is our working document in the refinement of our democratic institutions with the view toward island nation building. Like a baby, you fall when you take your first step. As your knees gather strength, the other steps are easy to take as you learn to walk the walk of that long journey ahead of you. You morph from toddler, adolescent into adulthood. And as much as we love our parents, there comes the time when we leave them behind to begin a family of our own. Call it independence!

The progressive nature of man in a democracy is primed to working toward goals that foster harmony and economic wellbeing for his fellowman. I wish I could say that such is a given. It is certainly not! It is for this reason that we give our darn best efforts in the thoughtful disposition of what's best for everyone especially in difficult situations. It is not an easy task but one worth working for from A-Z. Don't be afraid to dealing with risk. Like a master fisherman, you must transcend your fear of sharks down below in order to catch the best fish for the family dinner table.

John S. DelRosario
Koblerville, Saipan

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Don't throw the baby out with the bath water

There's no question that officers and staff of the Pew Charitable Trust's Ocean Legacy Program have not done a very good job in the CNMI of trying to promote the idea of a monument for the waters of the CNMI's northern islands. They have used typical east coast lobbying strategies—back-room meetings, glossy brochures, giveaways, vague promises, an indiscriminate "grass-roots"-style campaign, an emphasis on quantity rather than quality in collecting letters of support, signatures on petitions, letters to the editor, an emphasis on what plays in Washington, rather than what plays in the CNMI.

In doing so, they have ignored the structure of the local society, ignored its customs, ignored the island's power brokers. And consequently they have alienated those most vital to the success of their project: the safeguarding of a marine world unique to the entire globe.

The idea of a monument for the northern waters of the CNMI could have been introduced far more effectively, could have been promoted far more persuasively, could have been "sold," if you will, far more successfully, if the approach had been different. Unfortunately, it didn't happen.

But that is not reason enough to "throw out the baby with the bath water," as so many seem inclined to do. The "baby" is a living creature in its own right, and deserves saving.

Protection

To ensure its survival, what one does for and with the baby is to protect and nurture it. One does not ignore it just because no visible harm is in evidence. The harm is in the surroundings, and the idea is to keep the "baby" free of the contaminants that threaten to invade its territory. Nor does one ignore it because it's not clear how it will develop. It needs nurturing and protection so that it can develop to its full potential.

The claim, in other words, that the northern waters are not under stress, and therefore there is no need to rush to protect them, ignores the fact that that is precisely why it must be protected now. Those waters are as near pristine as can be found anywhere in the world, and the challenge is to keep them that way. One does not do that by waiting until the damage is done. One does so by preventing damage, by providing protection before harm is done.

Timeliness

Nor is it prudent, does it make sense, to hold off or postpone taking steps to put protective measures in place in order to study it. The longer the delay, the greater the chance that harm will be done, that "development" may not occur at all.

Moreover, the so-called monument proposal has been "on the table" for over a year—more than enough time to conduct whatever studies anyone could want. In fact, the Senate proposed formation of a committee to do just that. But nothing came of it, nothing happened. One year has already gone by. If action on the proposal is not taken now, what assurance is there that action will take place at some future point, that a committee will eventually be formed to look into it? Or will the idea end up, as so many other good ideas have, simply gathering dust on the shelves?

Better odds

People gamble, buy lottery tickets, play the slots in hopes that maybe they will be lucky and hit a jackpot. Supporting a monument designation brings far better odds than any other available form of gambling. It would assure that the northern waters were protected. It would assure that federal monies and positions came to the CNMI. It would assure an economic spill-over effect that would help revive the CNMI's economy. It would give the CNMI co-management authority over the EEZ. These are not gambles. They are established givens. But the offer, unlike a slot machine, won't be there very long. It goes away when President Bush leaves office.

The alternative being promoted by some—waiting for the U.S. Congress to pass a bill awarding the CNMI sole management authority over either a three—or maybe 12 mile—EEZ is a far bigger gamble. A bill to do that would either have to go through a "lame duck" Congress, or start over in whatever the new Congress—remember, every member of the House is up for election—ends up looking like. What with the current worldwide economic crisis, it does not seem likely that the present Congress would be all that interested, concerned about, tiny, remote CNMI's seemingly narrow interests. And the new Congress? Again, a big gamble. Who knows what its priorities, its concerns will be.

Global responsibility

It's not as though only the immediate family of the "baby" is involved either. This particular baby has gifts that could benefit the whole world. Some people in the CNMI feel/want/believe that only they should care for the baby, only they should have a say in how it should be protected, only they should play a role in how it develops. But because it has a potential for helping the whole world, other people also want to make sure that the baby is properly nurtured and protected, that its development not be stifled.

The people of the CNMI have a responsibility to the rest of the world to make sure that happens. It is an overwhelming responsibility, and rather than taking a negative view, the people of the CNMI should be pleased to know that someone else is willing to take on a large share of the responsibility to make sure the "baby" remains pristine and retains its uniqueness, that it is properly protected from contamination, that its potential is fully realized. The sharing brings more benefits to both the immediate family and the larger extended family than trying to do it alone.

In sum

The process started poorly, and caused a lot of hurt and anger. Some acknowledgment of the errors might have helped. But in the long run, neither should really matter. What matters is that an exciting opportunity is being offered the CNMI—it could even be considered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Not to take advantage of that opportunity could result in a major loss to the people of the CNMI now and for generations to come.

Ruth Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy birthday greetings to Frederick Dean Michael M. Guintu, who is turning 5 today, Oct. 31. He will celebrate his birthday with his classmates and teacher at Calvary Christian Academy. Greetings coming from his parents, Maricar and Frederick Guintu and the Tan Holdings Corp. legal staff.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Chris and Ryan: The magic life

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Island PROFILE

For magicians Ryan Makowski and Chris Zubrick, life as an on-stage duo began with a double-booking. Years ago, the two then solo performers both appeared for a show at Michigan State University after campus staff unknowingly hired two magic acts for the same night. Yet rather than squabble over the limelight, the two hastily put together a two-man act and took to the stage.

"And the rest is history," Zubrick said in an interview Tuesday, reclining in his seat beside Makowski at the Hyatt Hotel's Sandcastle Dinner Theatre, where they now entertain crowds each week.

Raised in Michigan, Zubrick and Makowski each had magical childhoods of a sort. Ryan took to doing magic tricks at age 6 with a kit full of props and a regular captive audience at family reunions and get-togethers.

"The props just kept getting bigger and bigger," said Makowski. "And I started to get better at it."

By age 10, Makowski was doing paid magic acts at birthday parties and a year later, after submitting a home video for a contest, the Kellogg's corporation invited him to perform in a Las Vegas competition as one of America's top five "most magical kids." Makowski saw his skills develop further in his high school years and, indeed, the props got bigger. He conjured a tiger on the stage at his high school graduation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lion's Bride with Ryan Makowski, left, and Chris Zubrick.

Zubrick came to magic in much the same way. Starting with the tricks he learned off of cereal boxes, he soon began honing his skills at home.

"For me, it just stuck and I never got out of it," he said.

Spellbound by a magician he had seen able to make white doves seemingly appear and disappear, Zubrick at age 7 begged his parents for one of his own birds so he could practice the act himself, only to raise more than a dozen doves later in his house as his talents flourished and the scale of his dove performance grew. After high school, Zubrick found work at an amusement park in Japan, entertaining his first international crowds with classic magic tricks.

"Magic crosses barriers," he said. "It's what I love about it."

Makowski echoed those sentiments.

"When you're entertaining children, you see that sense of wonder on their faces," he said. "For adults, you can see it takes them back to their childhoods."

Chris and Ryan began performing on Saipan last year, playing to tourists and locals under the multicolored lights of the Sandcastle's stage. Complete with elaborate dance numbers—the magicians had some coaching, they confessed—and special effects, the show is as visually dazzling as its tricks are tough to decipher.

While classics like the dove act, levitation and sleight of hand are all key to the show, the two are now crafting some new additions to their performance. After receiving a letter from a local girl who said she has never seen snow, for example, the two began developing a performance designed to "make that girl's dream come true," Makowski said, by creating an indoor snowstorm from only a crumpled paper snowflake. Taking a new twist on sawing a woman in half, the two are also experimenting with a plan to have themselves "cut" in half. So how are the tricks done?

"Very well," said Zubrick, smiling coyly. "Okay, can you keep a secret? Well, so can I."

Thank you to everyone for your support at our recent picnic.
We ask you for your continued support on November 4.
#8 Kilili for U. S. Delegate
To learn more, visit www.kilili08.com
Paid for by the Committee to elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

PIC welcomes its 10,000th Russian guest

This weekend, the Pacific Islands Club Saipan will welcome its 10,000th Russian guest after 12 years of catering to this emerging market.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and Irina Dronov, their 8-year-old son Andrey, and infant son Leonid are the lucky celebrants.

PIC has kept the celebration a secret from the Russian guests, so the Dronov family will be pleasantly surprised upon arrival on Saipan on early Saturday morning when Elly Stoilova, PIC's Russian market manager and a Marianas Visitors Authority representative greet them personally to share the wonderful news.

From the airport, the family will be transferred to PIC on SkyCastle's stretch Hummer Limousine, a service that they generously donated.

The hotel has prepared a variety of gifts and surprises for the family, including complimentary room nights at PIC, discounts and a special event at the Seaside Grill, and a tree-planting commemorative ceremony prior to their sunset dinner.

Local tour operators and companies also supported PIC in this special event. The First Floral Shop will decorate the guest room with flowers and balloons. In addition, the Dronov family is invited to enjoy a SandCastle dinner show, a "Stars & Stripes" and Saipan Sea Venture sunset dinner cruises, and dinner at Tony Roma's, Capricciosa, and Restaurant 360.

Hertz Rent a Car donated the free use of a Ford Explorer SUV for two days, while Toyota Rent a Car offered a Toyota Corolla for another two days so the family can view the island's scenic spots on four separate days.

Thanks to Tasi Tours, the lucky family will experience the beauty of Managaha Island and Pacific Subsea will help them explore the underwater world of Saipan 's rich azure lagoon in its yellow submarine, the *Deepstar*. While Mr. Dronov enjoys bottom fishing with J.M. Guerrero & Associates, Mrs. Dronova will be pampered at the Mandi Asia Spa.

But the gifts don't end here. DFS has also prepared an amazing luxury set and MVA is offering the lucky Vladivostok family a trip to remember to Tinian with a one-night stay at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino. Ladera International School is inviting the 8-year-old to the school for a complimentary half-day of English classes.

The 10,000th Russian guest celebration commemorates PIC's 12 years of continuous service to the Russian market. Since 1996, PIC has devoted its resources in developing this growing tourism market. For the last six years, PIC has worked to improve its Russian language website with current events and promotions. It also contains thorough information of the CNMI and answers questions for the curious traveler.

In 2005, PIC partnered with MVA to create the first Russian Saipan map and the Russian CNMI Guidebook, which is continuously updated and reprinted annually. Pacific Islands Club is proud to be the first hotel to translate into Russian all in-house information and collateral seven years ago as well as enhance services for the Russian traveler by adding a DVD and book library. Today, PIC accommodates the needs of the growing Russian visitors with a dozen Russian staff. ***(PIC)***

Red flag up at Rota beach

The Division of Environment Quality has raised the red flag on the West Harbor Marina on Rota after samples collected from the site were found to contain excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

In order to adequately address public health concerns, the DEQ has given the location a red flag and advised the public not fish or swim within 300 feet of this site for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The Division of Environmental Quality analyzed samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 12 locations on Rota Island. DEQ welcomes all inquires as to quality of the beach water. The public is encouraged to contact DEQ at 664-8500 with any questions concerning this matter. ***(DEQ)***

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 502078 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.No.:(670) 664-4809
Fax No.: (670) 664-4813

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to P. L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, November 6, 2008, at 9:00a.m. on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Board's office at Bldg. #1336, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Determination of Quorum
3. Review and Adoption of Agenda
4. Review and Adoption of Minutes (9/9/08)
5. Communications from Governor's Office & Legislature
   A. Governor's Office
   B. Legislature
6. Chairman's Report
7. Executive Director's Report
8. Investigator's Report
9. Old Business
   A. Proposed Amendments to P.L. 14-95
10. New Business
    A. M. Teimoury (CE) – Lapsed License
11. Miscellaneous Business
    A. Rota Board Member
12. Executive Session - The Board may vote to meet in Executive Session.
13. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Francisco Q. Guerrero
Chairman

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Island Snapshots

CANCER AWARENESS KRISTI EATON

Hundreds of people marched along Beach Road Wednesday to show their support for breast cancer awareness.

DENTAL HYGIENE MONTH KRISTI EATON

Lori Serna shows fourth grade students at San Vicente Elementary proper brushing techniques. Serna's visit to the school was part of National Dental Hygiene Month.

PLEASE VOTE ★ BOTA

6. CRISOSTIMO, Luis Palacios

for U.S. CONGRESS

"Ready to Deliver"

My Dear People of this the Commonwealth:

As your elected Congressional Delegate in Washington, I pledge to work closely with the U.S. Federal Government and Members of Congress across party lines in building and sustaining positive and progressive relation between the executive administration of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas government and the US federal government agencies. This should also include the non-profit associations and other non-government organizations, in addition to corporate and small businesses in the United States and no less the United States Congress in a tradition which comports with a fundamental goal set forth by the Covenant negotiators that the United States Government assists the newly established local government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in developing its economic base in order to achieve a progressively higher standard of living for our people as part of the mainstream American political family and eventually become full partners in the American economic community, and for the Commonwealth to develop its economic resources that would support and eventually meet the financial responsibilities of local self-government. With this vision, I will focus my energy on certain defined areas of priorities, but not limited to the following:

- ✔ working with the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Federal grantor agencies, Interagency Group of Insular Areas (IGIA) and the United States Congress in the optimal attainment of financial, technical and networking assistance for the development of the social, economic and physical infrastructure of the CNMI consistent with applicable provisions of the Covenant;
- ✔ pursuing other non-monetary economic development assistance opportunities with appropriate federal agencies, including the State Department, in promoting overseas trade and commerce, attract new foreign investment to the CNMI as well as increase indigenous entrepreneurial participation in local investment;
- ✔ working with appropriate federal agencies in the development of local capacity in building an effective, accountable and transparent government at the state and municipal levels of government and other public sector institutions and systems;
- ✔ working with the U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) and the United States Congress and the White House towards a full cost recovery of the CNMI "cover-over" funds pursuant to the Covenant;
- ✔ in establishing an interagency task force consisting of representatives from the central and municipal government, business sectors, non-profit organizations and other non-governmental organizations (NGO) to work on strengthening U.S. Federal-Insular Relations and Alliances, including the U.S. Military;
- ✔ in testifying before the United States Congress and ancillary federal agencies in support of legislation linking insular area socio-economic development needs with existing non-pecuniary capacities of the federal agencies in such areas as housing (i.e., Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, Ginnie Mae, etc.); ferry (i.e., Saipan-Northern Islands-Tinian-Rota-Guam Ferry system) and public transportation on land (public and non-public school use and public commute); community reinvestments and community foundations; environmental clean-up of PCB and other contaminants; land-based military infrastructure on Tinian and the Northern Islands; direct flight routes from New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan, Japan and other Pacific Rim countries; U.S.-sponsored economic seminar or conferences in foreign countries, including trade missions to foreign countries and in the United States, etc.;
- ✔ in securing the support of appropriate US federal departments and agencies on international matters directly affecting the NMI and in the establishment of strategic outposts in the United States and in foreign countries to promote local tourism and other economic or cultural interests of the NMI;
- ✔ in securing clearance with the U.S. State Department for the NMI's participation in regional and other international organizations involved in compatible social, economic, educational, scientific, technical and cultural matters;
- ✔ with U.S. Embassies in the promotion of the NMI in Asia and Pacific Rim countries;
- ✔ with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WESTPAC) or successor agency in the exploration and utilization of untapped marine resources (i.e., mineral deposits, deep-ocean commercial fishing, Marianas Trench tourism, deep-ocean fresh water commercial production, power generation, etc.) and other renewal energy strategies and opportunities for development in the EEZ;
- ✔ with U.S. Ambassadors throughout Asia and the Pacific in showcasing the success of America's exported ideals and institutions in the Northern Marianas and to enable a better understanding of the CNMI's pivotal role in the strategic line of defense of the United States in the Pacific theater as well as the NMI's potential role in staging US-based interests in the Asian and Pacific world trade and commerce (i.e., China market);
- ✔ with the White House Interagency Group of Insular Areas (IGIA) and specifically the Federal Regional Council Principals in addressing crosscutting insular policy issues, ensure program coordination and promote responsiveness on the part of federal agencies on the special circumstances that make the insular territories similar and dissimilar from the rest of the fifty states;
- ✔ with the U.S. national, state and city chambers of commerce in facilitating business relocation and investment decisions to the NMI, and the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) in the recruitment, retention and expansion of US-based business interests and investors in the NMI;
- ✔ closely with the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders on strategic issues affecting programs on education and health in the US Insular Territories;
- ✔ on the implementation of the FHA mortgage insurance program with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development; the Federal Crop Insurance Program with the US Department of Agriculture RMA; and the Office of Insular Affairs in updating the compendium on federal resources available to the US Insular Territories;
- ✔ to pursue the extension beyond the University of Hawaii System the application of resident status of CNMI residents pursuing postsecondary education in US-accredited institutions of higher education in the US; and
- ✔ in making the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) known throughout the United States as a United States territory and be included in the world wide web page through its zip code and postal designation of MP as the Marianas Pacific.

"Si Yu'us Ma'ase ★ Thank You ★ Olomwaay"

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT LUIS P. CRISOSTIMO, MARYANN DEMAPAN-CALVO, TREASURER.

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS

Anthony Sauer, left, speaks at the CNMI's Disability Employment Awareness Month summit at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Sauer, the director of the State of California's Department of Rehabilitation, was the keynote speaker. Esther Fleming, special assistant for the Administrative Office of the Governor, center, and Gregorio C. Sablan, chairman of the CNMI State Rehabilitation Council, also spoke at the summit.

KRISTI EATON

EARLY HALLOWEEN

Garapan Headstart students and teachers pose with their costumes as part of an early celebration of Halloween yesterday. The students went with their parents from room to room trick-or-treating.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

INDUCTION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Souvenir photo taken during Mafea's induction ceremony held Sept. 27, 2008 at Fiesta Resort & Spa Hibiscus Hall. On stage jamming with the Hi-Pitch Band is Nato Abarquez, while the rest down below are the officers and member of Mafea, Saipan.

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Ocean Best Crabmeat Imitation 1 lb. $2.39

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 $2.29

Golden State Vinegar 1 Gal. $2.79

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz. 89¢

Carnation Evaporated Milk 12 oz. 99¢

Ground Beef 5 LBS. $9.99 10 LBS. $16.95

Pike Mackarel Family Bag $5.95

Mackarel Family Bag $5.95

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz. 99¢

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

One Whole Chicken 50 oz. $4.99

Ace of Diamonds Tuna LIMIT 12 Cans $1.09

Gusto Ham 10 lbs. $16.99

Miller Sausage 5 lbs. $14.95

Chamorro Sausage Reg/Hot 1 lb. $3.99

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. $1.39

Libby's Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 59¢

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. $1.79

Bar-S Bacon 1 lb. $2.49

Bar-S Hotdog 1 lb. $1.05

Bar-S Ham 10 lbs. $15.99

Real Fresh Milk (Reg. & Low Fat) $17.99/CASE 236ml. $13.99

Pickles Vlasic Whole Dill 1 Gal. $5.99

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Spears) 1 Gal. $6.99

Marca El Rey Chorizos 4 lb./64 oz. $21.99/CAN

Moist Deluxe All Flavors 18.25 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. $2.39

Seafood Mix Log Feng Brand 1 lb. $2.59

Blue Crab Section Per Box $8.95

Kikkoman 1.6 L. $3.79

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. $4.99

Vegetable Oil 5 Gal. LIMIT 1 $31.99

Crisco Shortening 3 lbs. $4.99

Vega Shrimp 1 lb. $5.99

Green Mussels 2 lbs. $4.99

Milk Fish $1.59

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. $2.59

Sugar 2 kg. $1.69

Maseca Corn Flour 4.4 lbs. $3.59

Platinum Napkin 360 cnts. $3.99

Tilapia $1.19

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen $2.29

Chicken Wings 5.5 lbs. $10.99

Ichiban Limit 2 CASES $7.99/CASE

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. 59¢

Foam Plates 125 ct. $5.99

Bounty Basic 8 Roll $8.99

Kraft Cool Whip 8 OZ. $1.99 16 OZ. $3.50

Candle Plain White Only $12.95/CASE

Horse Shampoo 1 qrt. 2 FOR $3.00

Korean Butane Gas LIMIT 1 Case $20.99/CASE

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. $5.99

Enfamil 25.7 $26.99

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cnts. 99¢

Garlic $.79¢ 4 pcs./Bundle

Onion $.79¢ PER POUND

SpringField Vegetable Oil 128 fl.oz. (1Gal) $8.99

Crisco Pure Corn Oil 1 Gal. $9.99

Philadelphia Cream Cheese $2.39

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only $5.99

Shasta Drinks 12oz All Flavor (warm only) $9.99/CASE

Bounty 15 Rolls $19.99

Coke Regular 24/Case Warm Only $12.99

Pepsi Regular Warm Only $13.99/CASE

NON-FOOD

SOFT 'N GENTLE (12 ROLLS)	$4.50
CHARMIN (24 ROLLS)	$8.99
GAIN POWDER (120 LOADS)	$16.95
GAIN LIQUID (300 OZ.)	$16.95
GAIN LIQUID (200 OZ.) ORIGINAL ONLY	$11.95
JOY ULTRA LEMON DISHWASHING LIQUID (90 OZ.)	$6.99
SUAVE SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER (15 OZ.)	2 FOR $3.00

FAMILY BAG SPECIAL

BEEF SHANK	$10.95
FLANK STEAK	$16.95
PORK ADOBO	$10.95
PORK CHOP	$11.95
PORK BELLY	$11.95
STEWING CHICKEN	$6.95
TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG)	$4.99

U.S. CHOICE BEEF SHORTRIBS	$13.99
BEEF BACK RIBS	$7.95
BEEF OXTAIL	$16.95
BEEF STEW	$12.95
RIBEYE STEAK	$17.95
BEEF TOP ROUND STEAK	$14.95
SMOKED HAM STEAK	$12.95
PORK BUTT	$10.95

Budweiser / Budlight 24/Case Warm Only $24.99

Chamorro Punch 1 Gal. $8.99

Schools urged to prepare for sandcastle building tilt

For one day, public and private junior high and high school students will meet once again to see who will reign supreme in the islands' only sandcastle building competition this Nov. 22 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Beach Park.

Light in the Eve Foundation, a non-profit organization, is organizing the 5th Annual Build a Castle Save a Reef and schools are encouraged to register and prepare their representatives for this worthwhile community endeavor.

All proceeds will go to purchasing recycling bins for a pilot school program to help preserve the health of these precious marine resources.

"We have sent the registration forms out to all the schools and we urge all team captains to please organize your teams and start preparing your designs now," said Light in the Eve president Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Saipan Southern High School is the defending champion with their Manta Ray masterpiece for the high school division and Saipan Community School topped their category for the junior high division.

The theme for this year is "Fantasea 2008."

"We would like to challenge the imagination and creativity of the school teams and allow them to indulge in a fantasy under water world with their sand sculptures. It should be very fun and exciting," said Kim-Tenorio.

The other winners in the junior competition last year were Whispering Palms School's Teams A and B, which won second and third prizes. The Starfish Award was given to Chacha Oceanview Junior High.

In the high school division, Tinian High School placed second while Marianas High School and Saipan International School shared third prize. The Starfish Award recipient was Rota Jr. High School.

The Division of Environmental Quality is once again partnering with the foundation this year in celebration of the International Year of the Reef.

The first team captains meeting is scheduled for Nov. 13 at 3:30pm at the Mariana Visitors Authority Conference Room.

"We would also like to invite the public to please come to Build a Castle Save a Reef 2008 at the Hyatt, support the school teams and see how talented our students are," said Kim-Tenorio. "We are also grateful to all the sponsors who continue to make this event possible."

DEQ, Marianas Visitors Authority, Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Hyatt Regency Saipan, At Your Disposal, Sablan Topline, Younis Art Studio, Guam Refinery and Environmental Services Company (GRESCO) and Power 99 FM are some of the event's major sponsors. ***(PR)***

PTI donates phones to Guma Esperanza

Fourteen years ago, the CNMI government declared October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year, PTI continued its history of community involvement by donating 25 telephones to Guma Esperanza.

Guma Esperanza, or House of Hope, extends assistance to victims of domestic violence in the CNMI and the wireless devices donated by PTI will provide the victims with free communication to and from the house in case of emergency from wherever they are.

Lauri Ogumoro, manager of Guma Esperanza, recently expressed her thanks to PTI after taking delivery of the phones from PTI's business Sales and Marketing office on Middle Road in Chalan Laulau.

"We thank PTI for this generous donation of 25 phones. It's through the generosity of the local community that allows us to provide the level of service to the people of the CNMI," she said.

PTI regional marketing manager Kathryn Barry said that donating to an institution like Guma Esperanza is in line with PTI's dedication to the local community, and it was something she was all too happy to do.

"We're always proud to give back to the community and this donation gives PTI the opportunity to put the freedom of communication directly into the hands of some of the people who need it most," she said.

Aside from donating the phones themselves, PTI also provided Guma Esperanza with complimentary airtime on the CNMI's largest and most dependable wireless network. ***(PR)***

TO ALL NMHC-APPROVED CONTRACTORS

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NMHC

This is to inform all Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)-approved Contractors that we are currently updating our *Approved Contractor Listing*. In order for NMHC to extend your company's inclusion on its listing for another year, you must submit the documentations listed below. Those companies not listed below, but wish to be included are likewise encouraged to submit the following:

1. Valid CNMI Business License
2. Certified Current Financial Statement
3. 2 Years Business Gross Revenue (BGR) Tax Forms
4. Clearance Letter from the Department of Labor
5. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue & Taxation Office
6. Workmen's Compensation Policy
7. Name of Insurance Company(ies) Currently Dealing With
8. A list of on-going/completed projects showing name of project, start and completion dates, and contract amounts **including** three (3) reference letters from owners of the projects
9. List of vendors and suppliers **and** at least three reference letters from them
10. The company's total years in the construction business
11. Articles of Incorporation & Company By-Laws, if applicable

FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS BY DECEMBER 1, 2008 WILL RESULT IN YOUR COMPANY'S ELIMINATION FROM OUR LIST OF "APPROVED CONTRACTORS".

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

/S/JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO

3K CORPORATION
AMERICAN LANGENTE CORPORATION
APEX CONSTRUCTION
ASC CONSTRUCTION
BOKI ENTERPRISES
CAMACHO EQUIPMENT COMPANY
CHARGUALAF & ASSOCIATES
CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL & SUPPLY, INC.
DK BROTHERS
EHC CONSTRUCTION
E.Q. CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
EMB ENTERPRISES
F.T. CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
FAR CONSTRUCTION
FAST CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
FILTRADE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION
GR CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
GTS ENTERPRISES, INC.
HAWAIIAN ROCK PRODUCTS
HBR INTERNATIONAL, INC.
J.S. PACIFIC CORPORATION
J.A.M. CONSTRUCTION
JIM BOY CONSTRUCTION
KONSTRAK BULDERS
LANDMARK LIMITED
LR CONSTRUCTION CO.
LUTA CONSTRUCTION CO.
MARFRAN ENTERPRISES
MARIANAS REPAIR CO.
MARS CORPORATION
MD CONSTRUCTION
MICRONESIAN CONSTRUCTION CO.
ML INVESTMENTS DBA CK CONSTRUCTION
MU SUNG CORPORATION
NORTH PACIFIC BUILDERS, INC.
NORTH PACIFIC ENTERPRISES
PACIFIC COOPERATION LTD.
PACIFIC QUALITY BUILDERS
PBM CONSTRUCTION
POWER INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS
PHILIPPINE GOODS CONSTRUCTION
PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION CORP.
PUYAT & SONS CO., INC.
RDC CONSTRUCTION
REYES PLANNING & CONSULTING FIRM (RPCF), INC.
R.P. CONSTRUCTION
RPM CORPORATION
R.E.A.L. INTERNATIONAL CORP.
RM SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION
R.V.E. ENTERPRISES
RNV ASIA PACIFIC CONSTRUCTION
SMALL PROJECTS CONSTRUCTION
SN-5 ENTERPRISES
SOLID BUILDERS
SU CORPORATION
SYSTEM SERVICES COMPANY
TAC INTERNATIONAL DBA TRANSAMERICA CORP.
TL INTERPRISES
TOPTECH INC.
T & S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
TRANSAMERICA CORPORATION
TRIPLE V ENTERPRISES
UNI-WORLD CONSTRUCTION CO.
U.S.A. FANTER CORPORATION, LTD.
VARGAS CORPORATION
YUMAN CONSTRUCTION
VILLAGOMEZ CONSTRUCTION

"NMHC IS A FIAR HOUSING PROVIDER, LENDER AND EMPLOYER"

Missing pets

Pet welfare association PAWS is asking for the public's help in locating two missing pets.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Paddle is a Maltese with white and brown eyes.

NT (short for "No Tail") was last seen in San Vicente, by the Stanford Hotel three weeks ago. He is a 5-year-old Doberman and Rottweiler mix. He was wearing a studded leather collar and has an injured front paw. Call 235-4541 if you have any information. A $200 reward* will be given for information leading to his return.

Paddle is a Maltese with white and brown eyes. The last place he was seen was around the residence in San Jose, Beach Side. He has been a family dog for many years, and the kids really miss him. A reward* is offered for his return. No questions asked. The family just wants him returned safely.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NT (short for "No Tail") is a 5-year-old Doberman and Rottweiler mix.

If you have seen Paddle, or know of his whereabouts, contact 483-5041 or 234-8489. If you do not want to be identified, you may drop the dog off at the Seman residence across the street from the Mobile Station in San Jose.

If you have information about these animals, or are interested in adopting a pet, contact PAWS at 285-PAWS.

PAWS is not responsible for any reward offered in association with the return and/or information leading to the return of a lost/stolen pet. All rewards are offered by the owner of the missing animal and are the responsibility of the missing animal's owner.* *(PR)***

House praises NMC's accreditation efforts

Members of the 16th House of Representatives recently passed a resolution extolling the Northern Marianas College for efforts undertaken to comply with accreditation requirements.

House Resolution 16-57 recognizes the efforts of NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, students, staff, faculty, and members of the NMC Board of Regents in meeting accreditation standards.

"We are deeply appreciative of the House of Representatives' resolution," said Fernandez. "At the same time, the members of the House of Representatives should themselves be commended for their unwavering support of the college."

"They—together with Gov. Benigno Fitial, Washington Representative Pete Tenorio, and other Commonwealth leaders—have formed the bedrock of support that has sustained us in the last several months," added Fernandez.

The resolution acknowledges that despite its efforts and attempts at excellence, the college has had to confront many challenges because of the current economic crisis facing the Commonwealth.

It also states that "the Northern Marianas College continues to work with limited funding, pulling together its staff and resources, working countless hours to address the concerns from WASC and ultimately towards full accreditation."

Reps. Ralph Torres, David Apatang, and Victor Hocog introduced the resolution in the House.

It is titled "A House Resolution commending the Northern Marianas College on working diligently in addressing concerns under the 'Show Cause Accreditation' status given by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges." ***(NMC)***

Felipe
Norita Quitugua Atalig
for U.S. Congress

Would like to invite everyone to an
"Appreciation and Picnic Get Together"
- Sunday, November 2, 2008
- near Carolinian Utt Beach
- 11:30am to 4:00pm

9. Atalig, Felipe Norita Quitugua

Carmen Safeway
SUPERMARKET
OPEN
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
6:00AM-9:00PM

CLOSING OUT
SALE
LAST 3 DAYS
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
OCT. 31, NOV. 1, AND NOV. 2, 2008
EVERYTHING IN STOCK 30% OFF
EXCEPT WINE, LIQUOR, JUVENILE FURNITURES 25% OFF
LAST DAY OF BUSINESS
SUNDAY, NOV. 2, 2008
Foodstamp Shoppers Welcome • We are not responsible for typographical errors.

MICROL TOYOTA
SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

2001 4RUNNER 4WD V6
Auto, Beige, Stock: U07-064T
License: ABY-153
Mileage: 56882
~~PRICE $14,599~~
REDUCED PRICE
$12,599

USED CARS

STOCK	YEAR	MODEL	TRANS.	MILEAGE	COLOR	LICENSE #	PRICE	REDUCED PRICE
TOYOTA SEDANS								
R08-015F	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	59734	WHITE	ADJ-831	9,299	
R08-018F	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	44981	WHITE	ABY-667	8,199	
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	10,799	
R08-011F	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	65940	SILVER	ACC-154	11,399	
R08-008F	2006	CAMRY LE 4DR	AUTO	18576	BEIGE	ADN-161	15,999	
U08-043P	2000	CELICA 2DR	MANUAL	72097	BLUE	ABZ-838	7,999	
GM CARS								
R08-014F	2006	AVEO 4DR.	AUTO	33945	WHITE	ADS-642	9,999	
R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	~~9,599~~	6,899
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	~~10,999~~	9,499
LEXUS								
U08-067P	1995	LEXUS LS400	AUTO	24762	WHITE	ABS-062	11,399	
R08-003F	2003	LEXUS LS430	AUTO	54477	IVORY	ADU-502	~~29,999~~	26,899
TOYOTA TRUCKS								
R07-038F	2004	TACOMA 4X2 XTRACAB	AUTO	49609	BEIGE	ABV-159	~~11,899~~	10,599
OTHER CARS & TRUCKS								
U07-106P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX 4DR	AUTO	53147	SILVER	ADF-401	~~8,999~~	7,999
U07-107P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX 4DR	AUTO	48755	SILVER	ADF-421	~~8,999~~	7,999
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	~~10,999~~	8,399
U07-104T	2003	NISSAN MURANO SE	AUTO	32000	PEWT	ABZ-615	~~16,799~~	15,299
U08-038T	2001	MITS MONTERO WGN	AUTO	93155	BEIGE	CVS-88	7,999	
U07-095T	1999	MAZDA MILLENIA 4DR.SEDAN	AUTO	91014	SILVER	ABP-583	~~7,999~~	4,899
GM VAN								
R08-017F	2003	EXPRESS VAN	AUTO	117560	WHITE	BUS-1077	9,499	
GM SPORT UTILITY								
U08-036T	2002	TRAILBLAZER 4WD	AUTO	36460	RED	ACB-993	9,999	
SPORT UTILITY								
U07-050T	2002	RAV4 4DR 4WD	AUTO	39182	WHITE	ABW-677	~~13,699~~	12,799
R08-007F	2006	RAV4 4DR 2WD LTD	AUTO	20311	WHITE	ACE-344	~~19,185~~	17,699

MICROL TOYOTA
Corner Beach Road and Chalan Mnsr. Guerrero in San Jose
Telephone: 234-5911 | Fax: 234-6514 | www.microlsaipan.com

TOYOTA ACDelco

CULTURAL EXCHANGE CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Grace Christian Academy students pose with their counterparts from the Yokosuka Gakuin High School in Japan for a souvenir picture. The Japanese students were on island for a cultural exchange program. Despite the language barrier, everyone had a blast as the students and their teachers sang, danced, laughed, and played together through indoor games, song and dance presentations, sports activities, and cooking demonstration.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rev. Raymond Kinsella, Grace Christian Academy's Senior Pastor and board chairman, GCA principal Faith Dela Rosa, and Yokosuka Gakuin High School teachers Miho Enosawa, Watanabe Tetsushi, and Hiruta Masaharu pose for a souvenir picture.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB No.: ITB09-DPH-015 (A – G)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: NOVEMBER 18, 2008 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF LAPTOP COMPUTERS - (5-7), DESKTOP COMPUTERS - (15-17), PC POWER BACK-UPS - (20), SERVER POWER BACK-UPS - (2) COLOR LASER PRINTERS - (5), MONOCHROME LASER PRINTER - (1), ALL-IN-ONE PRINTER - (1), FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB09-016 (A) (B)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) LAPTOPS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 6:00 pm, CRM Conference Room, 1st floor of the Morgen Building, San Jose. The public is invited to attend. The agenda will include:

A. Preliminary Matters: Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes, Communications
B. Reports: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Administrator, Committees, Legal Counsel
C. Public Hearings. Conditional Use, 2008-1530, Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. Baseball Field
D. Contested Cases. None
E. Permits and Related Actions - Review and Decide
   1. 2008-0908 A. Vekhov, preliminary plat, lot TR 2045/08 and TR 2044/08
   2. 2008-1197 Jesus G. Villagomez final plat, lot H34NEW
F. Old Business
   1. Review and approve amendments (rezones) to the Official Saipan Zoning Maps.
      a. Map 13. Rezone RU and VR to VC, various lots.
      b. Map 19. Rezone VR to MC, Lots 409-1-1 and 409-1-R1, File 2008-1497
      c. Map 20. Rezone PR to TR, Lots 030 H 01, 02, 03; Rezone VR to VC, various lots
      d. Map 24. Rezone VC to TR, Lots 006 H 35, 36, 37, 38; Rezone VC to TR Lots 008 H 31, 33, 36, 37; Rezone VR to VC, various lots
      e. Map 27. Rezone VR to VC, Lot 005 I 328
G. New Business.
   1. Review new rezone proposals and approve advertising for public comment.
H. Public Comment
I. Executive (Closed) Session - Consult with legal counsel regarding pending or anticipated legal matters
J. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese Ogumoro, Acting Zoning Administrator at 234-9662 or 9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.). /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

New Beginnings...
Boundless Opportunities
We've changed our name
but our commitment remains the same.
SAIPANCELL Communications is now DOCOMO PACIFIC, INC. And although we've changed our name, we will continue to provide you with the very best products and services.
With the backing of NTT DOCOMO, the world's leading mobile communications company serving more than 53 million customers, DOCOMO PACIFIC will continue to be Saipan's preferred mobile communications provider NOW and into the future!
SAIPANCELL COMMUNICATIONS
The Choice is Clear.
is now
DOCOMO PACIFIC, INC.
NTT docomo
DOCOMO PACIFIC
483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai • Mita Travel, Garapan

HPV campaign kicks off middle school program

This week, HPV information packets are being distributed to female middle school students in the 7th-8th grades and all freshmen girls in high school.

According to the CNMI Coalition Against Cervical Cancer, these packets include information on cervical cancer in the CNMI and on the HPV vaccine.

The CNMI Immunization program will be visiting each school with a team of nurses to administer the vaccine. The vaccine is given as a series of three shots over the school year at no cost to the family.

CONTACT INFO
Immunization Program: 236-8734

Also in the HPV packet is a consent form that must be signed by a parent and returned to the school. Only girls with completed consent forms will be vaccinated.

This campaign is a cooperative effort of the Immunization Program of the CNMI Department of Public Health, the Commonwealth Cancer Association, and Stellar Marianas.

"We are building upon the success of the campaign the past school year, to reduce the incidence of cervical cancer in the CNMI," said Dr. Jack Hardy, senior adviser of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

If your daughter does not receive a packet by Monday, Nov. 3, call the school or the Immunization Program at 236-8734. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kagman Haunted House today

The Kagman Komunidat Association is inviting the public to the Kagman Haunted House scheduled for today, Oct. 31, at the Kagman Community Center. Doors open at 7pm. ***(PR)***

NMC Haunted House today

The Associated Students of the Northern Marianas College will be sponsoring a Haunted House today, Oct. 31, 2008. Community members are invited to the event, which will be held from 7:30pm to 11:30pm at NMC's Building V (Studio Warehouse). Admission price for those 10 years old and younger is 50 cents, and anyone older than 10 years old is $1. Free candy will be distributed at the event! ***(PR)***

Mafea membership meeting

The Mafea will have a general membership meeting to discuss the group's Christmas party activity. The meeting will be held Nov. 1, 2008 at 5pm at association president Bong de Guzman's residence at Aglipay Apartment, Ruler Street, Chinatown. The meeting is open to all Mafea officers, members and engineers who want to join the organization. For more information contact Bong de Guzman, 233-5938; Lito Marquez, 286-6337; or Jun Liberato, 234-1373.

Marriage Encounter weekend set

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held on Nov. 14-16, 2008 at the Saipan Grand Hotel. To join, contact John and Vicky Mafnas at 285-8454, e-mail vbmafnas@yahoo.com. All Encountered Couples and Priests are invited to share their gifts, talents and time in the planning and hosting of this Weekend. The next Planning meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 30, at 7pm at the residence of Charles and Cathy Cepeda in Fina Sisu. Bring a potluck dish. ***(PR)***

DEQ cleanup at Tank Beach

The Division of Environmental Quality cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Tank Beach in Kagman on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 8am. Volunteers will clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed. This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a green brigade t-shirt. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(PR)***

Casting call

Auditions will be held for the upcoming play, *It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas,* the Broadway version of the movie *Miracle on 34th. Street*, tomorrow, Nov. 1, from 2pm to 4pm, at D-101 MHS (Mr. Easton's Studio). Parts are available for children and adults. Call MariLou at 256-9540 for more information. ***(PR)***

TAKE YOUR PHONE TO THE MAX
Bring your phone to life.
Customize your phone with the latest ringtones, wallpapers and cool apps like games, entertainment and much more.
brew
Introducing Saipan's Most Versatile Mobile Communications Network!
MAX
MULTIMEDIA ACCESS XTREME
With MAX from DOCOMO PACIFIC, INC., you can do more than just talk. Browse the web, send and receive emails, and send pictures right from your phone.
MAX also offers downloadable content like wallpapers, ringtones and games. Plus, with BREW, you can access applications from your phone anytime and anywhere.
NTT docomo
DOCOMO PACIFIC
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Gualo Rai • Mita Travel, Garapan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Amendment of the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezones)

We ask for your comments on proposed amendments (rezones) to the Official Saipan Zoning Maps, sheets 13 (Navy Hill), 19 (As Terlaje), 20 (Susupe), 24 (Chalan Kanoa), and 27 (Koblerville).

A public hearing will be held:

Date:	**Wednesday, November 05, 2008**
Time:	**6:00 pm**
Place:	**Zoning Office Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan**

The proposed map changes may be viewed at
Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan
Zoning Board website: www.zoning.gov.mp (publications page)

After the public hearing, the Zoning Board will make a decision on whether to approve any or all of the changes to the Official Zoning Maps.

Comments on the proposals may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office and must be received at the Zoning Office by 4:00 pm, Thursday, November 06, 2008. Send written comments via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Office at 234-9663. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2007. /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. Baseball Field

The public is invited to provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on Conditional Use Permit Application, No. 2008 - 1530, by Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. The application is for the construction of a baseball field on lot# 003 A 15 in Marpi.

Date:	**Thursday, November 13, 2008**
Time:	**6:30 pm**
Place:	**CRM Conference Room, 1st Floor, Morgen Building, San Jose**

The conditional use application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office but they must be received at the Zoning Office by 4:30 pm, November 13, 2008. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese Ogumoro at 234-9662/ 9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC). /s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

Business

Fed cuts key interest rate half-point to 1 percent

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Reserve slashed a key interest rate by half a percentage point Wednesday, driving it to a level seen only once before in the last half-century, and the government finally began distributing funds from the billions in the financial rescue package.

Those efforts and others were part of a concerted drive by officials, just days before a national election, to demonstrate they are moving as quickly as possible to deal with the most serious financial crisis to hit the country since the 1930s.

"Policymakers have their foot to the accelerator and they are using every effort at their disposal to stop the slide in the economy and financial markets," said Mark Zandi, chief economist with Moody's Economy.com. "And it's not a moment too soon given the serious damage that has already been done."

Wall Street, which the previous day posted the second biggest point gain in history, was less impressed with Wednesday's activity. The Dow Jones industrial average finished the day down 74 points, a drop analysts said partly reflected growing worries about whether the government's actions will be sufficient to avert a deep and prolonged recession.

The Fed, as investors had hoped, announced a half-point cut in the federal funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other on overnight loans, driving it down to 1 percent, a low last seen in 2003-2004. That rate has not been lower since 1958 when Dwight Eisenhower was president.

Reducing the rate as low as zero cannot be ruled out, some analysts said, but they cautioned that reducing rates that far carried some risks, including that if the credit crisis suddenly worsened, the Fed would have used up its ammunition.

Analysts also noted that just lowering rates cannot serve as a panacea to overcome a credit crisis. While the goal is to encourage banks to begin lending again, financial institutions are skittish about extending new loans given the huge losses they have racked up in bad mortgages.

Meanwhile, the administration announced that the spigot had been opened on the $700 billion fund created by Congress Oct. 3 to rescue the U.S. financial system. Treasury issued a report showing checks had been disbursed for $125 billion in payments to nine major banks, including Bank of America, Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley. The goal is to bolster their balance sheets so they will resume more normal lending.

And the administration was nearing an agreement on a plan to help around 3 million homeowners avoid foreclosure, according to sources who had been briefed on the matter. The program would be the most aggressive effort yet to limit damages from the severe housing slump.

Besides cutting interest rates, the Fed announced it was extending credit lines worth $30 billion each to the central banks of Brazil, Mexico, South Korea and Singapore in an effort to bolster financial markets in those countries and relieve investors' anxieties.

It brought to 14 the number of central banks that the Fed has entered into so-called swap arrangements for currency as a way to pump more liquidity into global credit markets, part of an effort that the Bank of England estimated has resulted in $5 trillion in support being put forward by governments worldwide.

BankPacific lowers rate to 4 percent

Following the Federal Reserve Systems' move early yesterday morning Guam time, BankPacific announced it is lowering its prime rate to 4 percent.

"This news, though anticipated, was very good to wake up to this morning. We want to immediately pass the rate break on to our clients. Unlike many banks stateside, we are actively lending money to small businesses and now we can do so at even lower rates," said Philip Flores, BankPacific president.

BankPacific has been serving the region since 1954 and has a five-star rating from Bauer Financial Corporation and an "A" rating from Lace Financial Corporation, both of which are the highest ratings available. ***(BankPacific)***

Shell's V-Power fuel comes to Saipan

RUDY ARMENTA

Eric G. Holthusen, right, Fuels Technology Manager for the Asia Pacific & Middle Eastern Region, demonstrates the effect of carbon deposits on one's engine by showing how long it takes for the flames to die out from a dirty valve that has been soaked in gasoline. At left is Jeanette Suzuki, Shell retail territory manager for Guam.

Shell has teamed up with Ferrari to come up with the most high-tech fuel yet—a gasoline that actually cleans up your engine of carbon deposits as you use it.

In a launching held Wednesday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, the Shell Marianas team introduced for the first time on Saipan the V-Power Premium Gasoline, an advanced fuel that cleans an automobile's engine to provide enhanced engine responsiveness.

Eric G. Holthusen, Fuels Technology Manager for the Asia Pacific & Middle Eastern Region, said that Shell V-Power contains more than five times the amount of cleaning agents required by U.S. federal government standards and meets the auto manufacturer's Top Tier Gasoline Detergent Standard.

"This allows Shell V-Power to enhance engine responsiveness and helps remove and prevents future deposits on intake valves and fuel injectors," said Holthusen.

All Shell stations on Saipan will now carry the V-Power fuel, replacing the outlets' premium grade gasoline supply.

Jeff Boyer, Shell Marianas retail manager and country chair representative, said that V-Power gasoline immediately gets to work on cleaning one's engine as soon as one starts using this fuel. "It will take about three fill-ups for you to start noticing a change in the responsiveness of your engine," he said.

Holthusen said that V-Power is the product of the close working relationship between Shell and Ferrari.

"Over the years, Shell and Ferrari have worked closely together in a technical relationship to continually improve the formulation of the fuel they use. Like many great innovations that have started on the track, Shell V-Power is of considerable value to those discerning individuals who want to use that technology on the road for their journey," he said.

For a limited time, customers can get Lucky 7 Double Stamps when they fill up with Shell V-Power gasoline. Plus, they'll receive a free 16 oz. can of Full Throttle Energy drink when they redeem their Lucky 7 Passport, offer good while supplies last.

First Hawaiian Bank posts increased 3Q net earnings

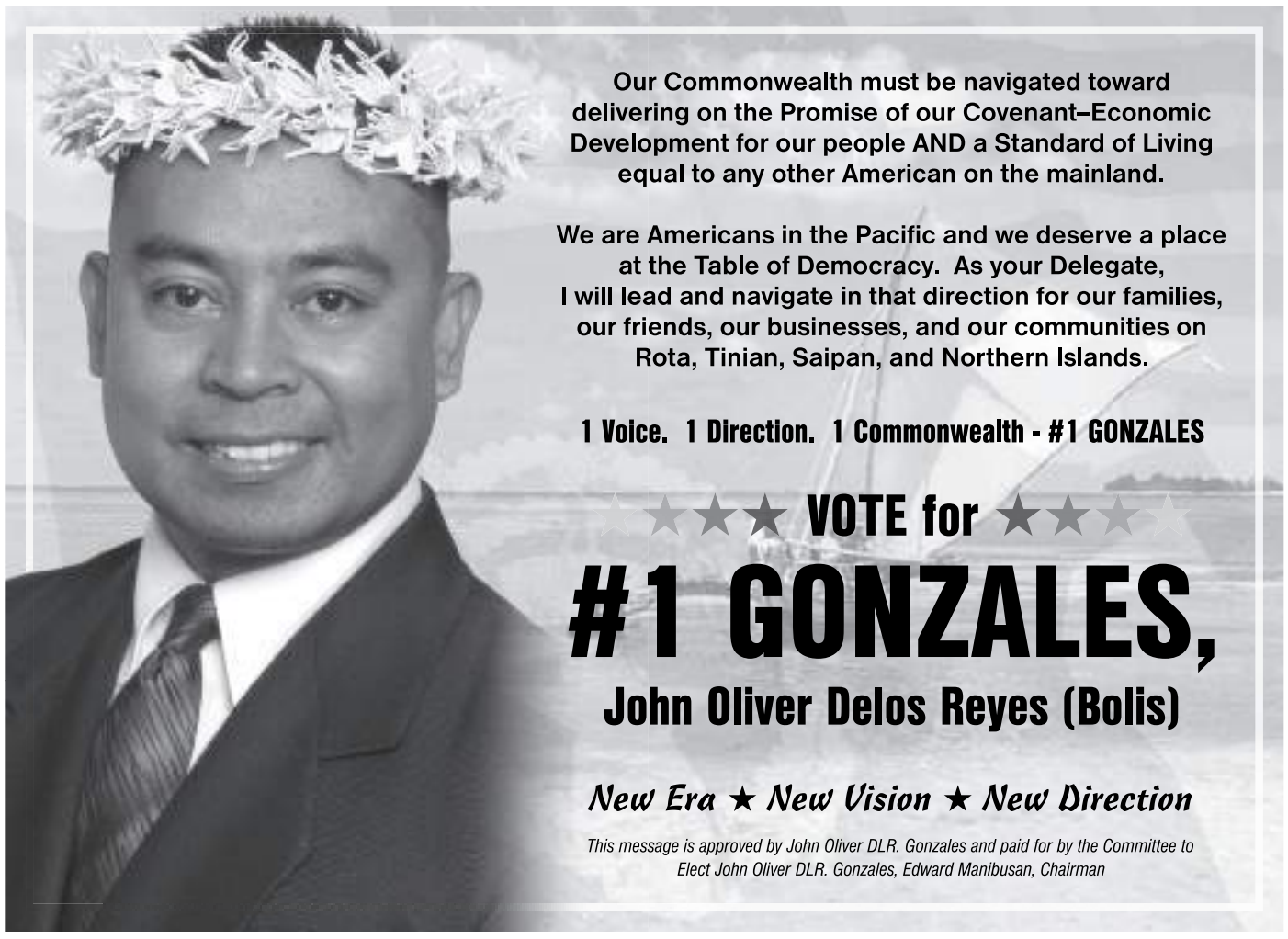
HONOLULU, Hawaii—First Hawaiian Bank yesterday reported 2008 third quarter net income of $55.4 million, an increase of 6.0 percent over the third quarter of 2007. For the nine months ended Sept. 30, 2008, the bank earned a record net income of $166.6 million, 7.1 percent over 2007, according to an announcement today by Don Horner, president and chief executive officer.

"Despite the challenges facing our economy and the financial services industry, First Hawaiian's consistent credit policies have continued to serve us well. Last year was the most profitable in our 150 year history and for the first nine months we are on pace to exceed 2007's earnings performance. Our solid balance sheet, earnings, credit quality and ample liquidity allowed us to support our local communities by posting strong loan growth for the quarter while maintaining a prudent loan to deposit ratio. Capital ratios were also strengthened. Overall, the bank continues to perform well."

For the nine months ending Sept. 30, 2008, First Hawaiian achieved the following:

- Total Revenues: increased by 11.8 percent to $516.7 million;
- Total Assets: were $12.8 billion, a 2.4-percent increase;
- Loans and Leases: were $7.7 billion, a 23.9- percent increase;
- Deposits: unchanged at $8.9 billion;
- Loan to Deposit Ratio: 79.1 percent; and
- Non-Performing Assets: as a percentage of total assets remained one of the lowest in the U.S. at 9 basis points.

First Hawaiian Bank® ($12.8 billion assets) was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. It has 58 branches in Hawaii, three in Guam, and two on Saipan. The bank's holding company, BancWest Corporation, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a leader in global banking and financial services. BNP Paribas is one of the highest credit-rated banks in the world with an AA+ credit rating from Standard & Poor's. ***(FHB)***


Our Commonwealth must be navigated toward delivering on the Promise of our Covenant–Economic Development for our people AND a Standard of Living equal to any other American on the mainland.
We are Americans in the Pacific and we deserve a place at the Table of Democracy. As your Delegate, I will lead and navigate in that direction for our families, our friends, our businesses, and our communities on Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and Northern Islands.
1 Voice. 1 Direction. 1 Commonwealth - #1 GONZALES
VOTE for
#1 GONZALES,
John Oliver Delos Reyes (Bolis)
New Era ★ New Vision ★ New Direction
This message is approved by John Oliver DLR. Gonzales and paid for by the Committee to Elect John Oliver DLR. Gonzales, Edward Manibusan, Chairman

Asia stock markets surge after Fed rate cut

HONG KONG (AP)—Asian stock markets rallied Thursday, led by a 12 percent jump in South Korea, after the U.S. Federal Reserve slashed interest rates to help revive the world's largest economy and opened new credit lines with central banks.

AP

A man stops and takes a look at an electric market board in Tokyo, Thursday Oct. 30, 2008.

Every major index advanced, with Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average gaining 10 percent percent to 9,029.76 as exporters like Toyota and Sony got a boost from the yen continuing to retreat from a 13-year high against the dollar last week.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index shot up 9.3 percent to 13,882.60, and South Korea's key stock index soared a record 12 percent to 1,084.72. Benchmarks in Australia, Singapore, Taiwan and the Philippines added 4 percent or more. Russia's two main indices were also up sharply.

Wall Street futures suggested U.S. markets were poised to open higher. Dow Jones industrial average futures were up nearly 4 percent at 9,200.

The Federal Reserve's overnight move to cut its key interest rate by half a percentage point was widely expected but still provided a reason to sustain the regional rise that began Tuesday following days of punishing declines.

Hong Kong's de facto central bank followed by cutting its key lending by the same amount as the Fed and Taiwan reduced its key interest rate by a quarter point. In Japan, speculation mounted that the central bank would cut its key rate, already at a low 0.5 percent, at a meeting Friday.

Before the Fed acted, China also lowered its rates by just over a quarter point. The Shanghai Composite index was up 2.9 percent.

Oil rises above $69 on weak dollar, market rally

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Oil prices climbed above $69 a barrel in Asia Thursday, steadily extending gains as the dollar tumbled and stock markets in the region rallied after the U.S. Federal Reserve cut interest rates to boost the world's largest economy.

Light, sweet crude for December delivery was up $2.11 to $69.61 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange by midafternoon in Singapore. The contract overnight rose $5.56 to settle at $68.29. Oil prices have fallen by about 54 percent since peaking at nearly $150 a barrel in mid-July.

"Oil prices rose last night and we see a marginal continuation of that trend in trade this morning," said David Moore, commodity strategist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia in Sydney.

But Moore warned the rally may not be sustainable amid persistent concerns of a global economic recession.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

FDIC safeguards more of your savings

By DAVID UFFINGTON
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation recently increased insurance coverage on bank accounts to $250,000. Until the increase, accounts were covered up to $100,000, except for retirement savings, which have been covered to $250,000 since 2006.

The increase, however, is temporary. The new increased coverage will run through Dec. 31, 2009, at which time the coverage will be reduced to the previous $100,000 amount.

The new insurance coverage is as follows:

- Single owner account: $250,000
- Joint account $250,000: per co-owner
- Trust Accounts $250,000: per owner per beneficiary

These amounts apply to the total amount that is deposited in a bank. For example, if you have both checking and savings at one bank, those amounts would be added together subject to the $250,000 cap.

If you're concerned about the safety of your present bank, consider spreading your money between multiple banks and account types, or investigate credit unions as an option to traditional banks. Credit unions aren't in business for profits, and most of them have been less likely to make the risky sub-prime housing loans that have been the downfall of banks across the country. Shareholders are the members, and having a credit-union account is a good way to get started in the credit world should you need a loan.

To keep credit unions on equal footing with banks, they have been included in the increased insurance coverage legislation. Credit unions aren't covered by the FDIC. Instead they are chartered by the National Credit Union Administration and covered by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund. No money has ever been lost in a credit-union failure because of the insurance.

Keep an eye on the FDIC Web site [www.fdic.gov] for press releases and the Consumers and Communities section for up-to-date information. Click on Industry Analysis and Bank Data and Statistics to check on a specific bank. You'll also be able to research comparisons between banks and individual bank ratings reports. The Failed Banks link will provide specific information about where accounts of failed banks have been transferred.

You can link from the FDIC site or go directly to www.myfdicinsurance.gov to see how much of your bank account balances are covered by the new legislation.

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

Nation

Intensity grows as presidential election looms

By BEN FELLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

AMERICA VOTES

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP)—Fresh off a day defined by flash and cash, Barack Obama is targeting the tight states of Florida, Virginia and Missouri. A resilient John McCain aptly picks up his campaign in the Ohio town of Defiance, battling long odds to victory.

With five days until the election, the presidential race is picking up pace.

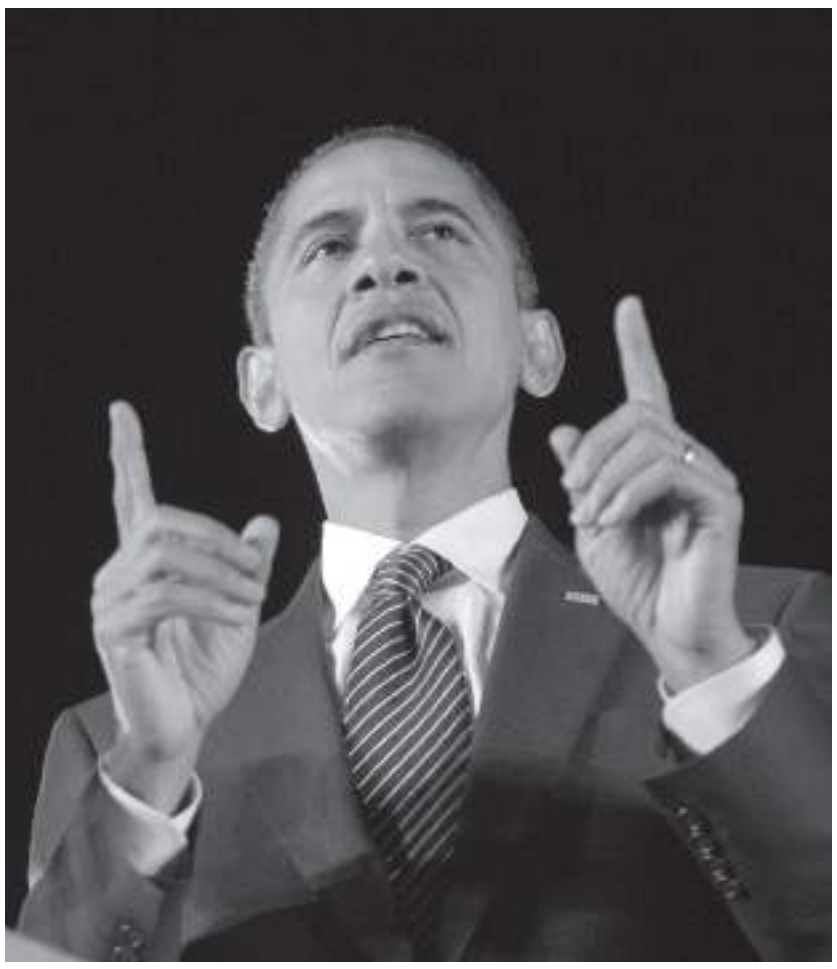
Obama, the Democratic Illinois senator, holds the leads in polls nationally and in most of the states still in competition. McCain, a Republican Arizona senator, has tried to erode Obama's lead by raising doubts about his tax plan and his ability to protect the nation.

Both candidates keep hitting the same states that could decide the election. The majority of states already tilt to one candidate and aren't getting showered with any attention.

Obama starts Wednesday in Florida, shifts north to Virginia and ends his day in Missouri. McCain plans to campaign all day in Ohio, which tipped the 2004 election for President Bush.

Campaigns are famous for tightening and getting even more unpredictable at the end. McCain and running mate Sarah Palin say they will surprise election predictors with a win.

Obama tried to lock up undecideds Wednesday with a prime-time infomercial that seamlessly cut to some live comments he was making in Florida. The air time cost $4 million.



AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., speaks at a rally in Kissimmee, Fla., Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008.

For a capper, Obama got a big boost late in the evening from Bill Clinton. Pushing aside hard feelings over Obama's winning primary campaign against his wife, the former president got on stage with Obama for the first time and called him the future of the country.

McCain, in Florida, argued that Obama lacks "what it takes to protect America from terrorists" as he sought to shift attention away from the economy.

Associated Press-GfK polls taken within the past several days showed Obama ahead in four states that supported Bush in 2004, and essentially even with McCain in two others. A separate survey suggested even McCain's home state of Arizona was not safely in his column.

The campaigns will make a mad dash until Tuesday.

But in a telling comment in describing his 30-minute television ad, Obama said Wednesday: "At this stage, everything that needs to be said has probably been heard by a lot of voters. And what you want to do is just remind them one more time, `Here's what I'm going to do.'"

McCain says racism will barely affect this election

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Republican presidential candidate John McCain says racism will play virtually no role when voters head to the polls next Tuesday because it will be trumped by the nation's economic problems.

In a transcript of an interview taped for broadcast Wednesday night on CNN's "Larry King Live," McCain said people will vote "for the best of reasons, not the worst of reasons." He said most people will vote based on who they want to lead the country.

Referring to people who might vote against Democrat Barack Obama because he is black, McCain added: "It would be a tiny, tiny, minority. Because people are hurting too much now. I mean, they're worried about staying in their homes, keeping their jobs."

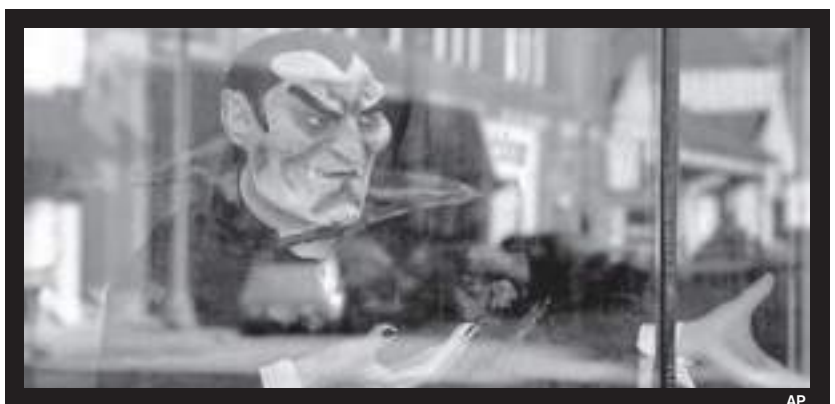
The sharp economic downturn and calamity in the financial industry has become the campaign's dominant issue.

McCain also repudiated a suggestion by conservative talk show host Rush Limbaugh that Colin Powell's endorsement of Obama was because both men are black. Powell is a Republican and served President Bush as secretary of state.

"I reject it," he said of Limbaugh's statement. "Look, there is racism in America. We all know that because we can't stop working against it. But I am totally convinced that 99 and 44 one-hundredths percent of the American people are going to make a decision on who is best to lead this country."

McCain's comments came six days before Election Day. Polls show only small percentages of people saying the race of the candidates will be a factor in their vote, but analysts and political professionals will be watching the results for evidence of any role racial attitudes may play.

In the interview, the Arizona senator also said he was surprised at how controversial his vice presidential running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, has become. Though she is a major star among Republicans and conservatives, many Democrats and some independents find her polarizing.



AP

Buildings of downtown Oil City, Pa. are reflected in the windows of a "Haunted House" with a Dracula replica setup for the Halloween season, Wednesday.

Real Halloween back for long traumatized Pa. town

OIL CITY, Pa. (AP)—For 16 years, real horror overshadowed the make-believe terror of Halloween in this Pennsylvania town, where trick-or-treating after dark was banned after an 11-year-old girl was abducted off the street and murdered.

But on Friday, pint-sized witches, princesses and vampires will once again be shuffling from house to house at night, thanks to a petition drive by a fifth-grader.

Elizabeth Roess gathered signatures, wrote an essay outlining her argument, and persuaded City Council two months ago to bring back nighttime trick-or-treating.

"I was a little scared that happened," Elizabeth said of the 1992 slaying of Shauna Howe, who was kidnapped while walking home from a pre-Halloween party. But she added: "I did this and now I'm so happy."

For weeks now, children and their parents in this struggling, working-class town of 10,000 about 80 miles north of Pittsburgh have been eagerly anticipating Halloween's return, though not without some trepidation.

Shannon Goodman got a tether to make sure her 2-year-old daughter, who will dress as a witch, doesn't wander off while they go door to door. "It's going to be a lot of fun, but every parent who cares about their kid should have that fear," she said.

FBI: Anthrax hoaxes from Calif. man still in mail

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A California man was arrested Wednesday on suspicion of sending hoax letters labeled "anthrax" to scores of media outlets, the FBI said Wednesday, warning that many of the threats may still be in the mail.

Marc M. Keyser, 66, sent more than 120 envelopes containing a compact disc that had a packet of sugar labeled "Anthrax Sample" along with a biohazard symbol, the FBI said in a news release. The CD was titled "Anthrax: Shock & Awe Terror."

Keyser was taken into custody without incident at his home in Sacramento on three counts of sending a hoax letter, the FBI said. At least some of the packages had Keyser's return address on them, said FBI agent Steve Dupre.

Keyser is being held at the Sacramento County jail and is expected to make his first court appearance Thursday. It wasn't known Wednesday evening whether he had a lawyer.

None of the packets has so far tested positive for hazardous material, the agency said. Authorities did not say what was on the CD.

More mailings will probably be received over the next few days; recipients should contact their local FBI office, Dupre said.

The investigation began after The Atlantic magazine received a letter Monday, Dupre said. The Charlotte Observer newspaper in North Carolina received an envelope Tuesday.

The letters were received Wednesday by at least one Sacramento television station, The San Diego Union-Tribune newspaper and the office of Republican Congressman George Radanovich in Modesto. A McDonald's restaurant in Sacramento also received a package.

Radanovich's office was evacuated early Wednesday after a staffer opened the mailing. Some employees went to a hospital for precautionary examinations and were released with a clean bill of health.

Radanovich spokesman Spencer Pederson said the congressman was at a meeting in Fresno when the package was opened. Pederson said later Wednesday that the office had been cleaned as if the substance were anthrax.

One entrance to the Union-Tribune was closed for part of the afternoon after a large envelope labeled "anthrax" was opened in the newsroom.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer newsroom was evacuated briefly Wednesday after an editor opened a package that the FBI says appears to be connected to the other mailings. The Seattle Times reported it received a similar package.

Fatalities on the rise in vehicle-animal crashes

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fatalities from vehicle crashes with deer and other animals have more than doubled over the last 15 years, according to a new study by an auto insurance-funded highway safety group that cites urban sprawl overlapping into deer habitat.

The report by the Highway Loss Data Institute found that 223 people died in animal-vehicle crashes last year, up from 150 in 2000 and 101 in 1993.

Since 1993, Texas had the most deaths from such crashes, with 227, followed by Wisconsin with 123 and Pennsylvania with 112.

The Highway Loss Data Institute and its sister organization, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, looked at both insurance claims and federal crash data. According to the report, most accidents involving animals are with deer.

"Urban sprawl means suburbia and deer habitat intersect in many parts of the country," said Kim Hazelbaker, the Highway Loss Data Institute's senior vice president. "If you're driving in areas where deer are prevalent, the caution flag is out, especially in November."

The study found that insurance claims for crashes with animals is three times higher in November than it is from January to September.

"The months with the most crash deaths coincide with fall breeding season," said Anne McCartt, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's senior vice president for research.

ACROSS THE NATION

Neb. governor accelerates fix of safe-haven law

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—Deciding he could wait no longer, Gov. Dave Heineman said Wednesday he will call a special legislative session to fix a safe-haven law that in just a few months has allowed parents to abandon nearly two dozen children as old as 17. Heineman had planned to wait until the next regular legislative session convened in January, but changed his mind as the number of children dropped off at hospitals grew. Two teenagers were abandoned Tuesday night alone, and three children dropped off previously did not even live in Nebraska. "We've had five in the last eight days," Heineman said in explaining why he called a special session. "We all hoped this wouldn't happen." The special session will begin Nov. 14. That's less than two months before the regular legislative session, but the governor and others see a need to act quickly. "This law needs to be changed to reflect its original intent" to protect infants, Heineman said during a news conference Wednesday.

Calif. cop fatally shoots innocent man in his yard

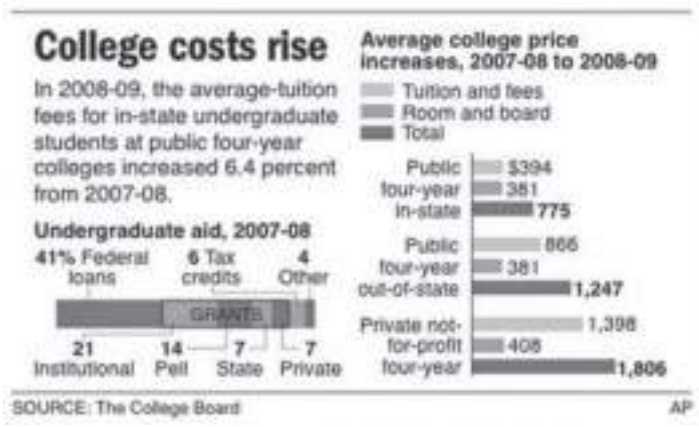
LOS ANGELES (AP)—When Julian Alexander heard a strange noise in his yard, he reacted the way many people would—he went outside to investigate, taking a stick with him. Moments later, the young father-to-be lay dying on the ground, shot twice by a police officer who was chasing suspected burglars through the neighborhood. Relatives said Wednesday that Alexander, a 20-year-old newlywed, was shot without any warning from the officer and they want to know what happened. "He heard a noise, went to check it out," father-in-law Darryl Mooney, 46, said by telephone. "The next thing you know, he's shot by police." The Anaheim Police Department said the officer, whose name it withheld, was driving in a marked police car around 1:30 a.m. Tuesday when he saw four youths who ran when they spotted him. He chased on foot and the group splintered, running over fences and through yards. Police Chief John Welter said the officer encountered Alexander in his front yard, mistook him for a suspect and shot him. He was declared dead at a hospital.

Husband held in death of NY teacher as body ID'd

NORTH HILLS, N.Y. (AP)—Police arrested a man on suspicion of murder Wednesday after the body of his wife, a special education teacher, was found near a highway on New York's Long Island two days after she failed to show up for work. Leah Walsh, 29, was reported missing Monday, and her abandoned car was found that day with a flat tire on another highway 13 miles from where her body was found. William Walsh made several tearful public pleas to help find his missing wife, but police said they arrested him after the identity of the body was confirmed Wednesday evening. Nassau County Police spokesman Sgt. Anthony Repalone offered no details of how or why Leah Walsh was killed, saying a news conference would be held Thursday. William Walsh, 29, was expected to be arraigned on the murder charge that day. He was in police custody Wednesday night, and it wasn't immediately known if he had a lawyer.

College prices up again even as economy falters

By JUSTIN POPE
AP EDUCATION WRITER



As the economy walloped their finances, students and families saw little relief this fall from rising college costs, which jumped 6.4 percent at state universities, according to new figures out Wednesday.

Next year is already looking bad, too. More state budget cuts to higher education are virtually certain, and schools in at least two states—Michigan and Rhode Island—will take the unusual step of raising prices midyear.

"At a time of flattening wages, widespread job losses and shrinking home values, the last thing parents need is another big increase in the cost of college," said James Boyle, president of the group College Parents of America.

But that's what they got.

For the current academic year, the average list price of tuition and fees at four-year public universities rose $394, or 6.4 percent, to $6,585 for in-state students. At private colleges, prices rose $1,399, or 5.9 percent, to $25,143, according to the annual "Trends in College Pricing" report from the College Board.

It's important to remember that many students don't pay the full list price. At private colleges, grants and tax breaks lower the average net price to about $14,900. At public universities the average actual cost is only about $2,900.

And while some private colleges now exceed $50,000 when room and board are figured in, they are the exception. Overall, more than half of four-year college students attend institutions where the list price for tuition and fees is less than $9,000.

"No student should rule out a private college and university without first checking with the institution about financial aid options," said David Warren, president of the National Association of Colleges and Universities. He noted that over the last decade independent colleges have increased financial aid at more than three times the rate they've increased tuition.

But they've done so largely by tapping rapidly growing endowments. Now, like family savings, college endowments have taken a beating on Wall Street, just as demand for financial aid rises. Some colleges may try to hold down prices—Benedictine University in Lisle, Ill., has announced a freeze—but in most cases the pressure to charge more will be greater.

"If current economic patterns continue, it is possible that some tuition increases next year will be higher than the usual 5 to 6 percent at our institutions," Warren said.

At public institutions—which enroll about three-quarters of American college students—the economy already has prompted big increases. At least 21 states cut higher education spending this year, and some passed tuition increases well above the national average, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. The University of Florida, for instance, is eliminating 430 faculty and staff positions, lowering enrollment by 1,000 students and increasing prices 15 percent for in-state undergraduates.

"Despite every effort by our institutions to increase aid to students and families, I am afraid this year's report may prove only to be a snapshot of a time in history that we might soon be referring to as the 'good old days,'" said Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education, the principal group representing colleges in Washington, D.C.

The College Board report emphasized that, accounting for overall inflation, prices rose less than 1 percent this year, and actually declined at public two-year colleges. But that's only because overall inflation was unusually high—about 5.6 percent.

"No one really thinks it's easier to pay for college just because other prices have gone up," Sandy Baum, economics professor at Skidmore College and senior policy analyst at the College Board, said in a telephone interview.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

JUAN F. BARCINAS and BARBARA DLC. EVANGELISTA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about June 14, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on June 16, 1983, under Document No. 17490 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT 001 T 52, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 001 T 00, DATED AUGUST 14, 1969, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 1,486 SQUARE METERS.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$117,150.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$117,150.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

CELINA M. SETEFANO and VILIAMI S. SETEFANO (collectively "Trustor"), on or about August 2, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on August 3, 1983, under Document No. 17659 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 002 F 67, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 1,230 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 002 F 00, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 691, ON THE 1ST DAY OF MARCH, 1971.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$52,940.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$52,940.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

HERMAN M. GUERRERO aka Herman M. Deleon Guerrero and Asunta T. Guerrero aka Asunta T. Deleon Guerrero (collectively "Trustor"), on or about July 18, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on July 18, 1983, under Document No. 17740 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Tract number 20472-9, and containing an area of 926 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on drawing/cadastral plat number 2064/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as document number 14154, on the 26th day of March, 1982.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 5, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$64,730.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$64,730.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

JOSE A. CEPEDA and JULIA A. CEPEDA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about July 20, 1984, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on July 20, 1984, under Document No. 84-1301 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 017 H 18 (FORMERLY BLOCK 66 LOT 3) AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 017 H 00 DATED FEBRUARY 17, 1971.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$81,150.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$81,150.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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Asia

Pakistan quake deaths rise to 215

WAM, Pakistan (AP)—The death toll from an earthquake that devastated an impoverished valley in southwestern Pakistan rose to 215 on Thursday, a provincial official said, as authorities scrambled to help survivors sleeping in the frigid mountains.

The 6.4 magnitude quake hit an area of Pakistan's Baluchistan province near the Afghan frontier before dawn on Wednesday, demolishing an estimated 2,000 homes in a string of villages.

Officials on Thursday declared the rescue phase of the operation over after residents and emergency workers mounted a final search for survivors or bodies buried in the rubble.

With reports still coming in from outlying areas, provincial government minister Zamrak Khan said the toll had risen to 215 and noted that hospitals were still treating dozens of seriously injured people.

The quake left an estimated 15,000 people homeless in the hard-hit Ziarat district, triggering a relief effort that saw the army airlifting supplies and medical teams into the region.

Officials said several thousand people spent Wednesday night in tents in camps erected by the military. However, they failed to reach all the outlying areas before temperatures plunged to around freezing.

AP

Pakistani villagers look at children who were killed by the earthquake in Ziarat, about 130 kilometers, 80 miles, south of Quetta, Pakistan on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008.

In the hillside hamlet of Kawas, dozens of people slept in the open near the rubble of their simple mud and stone houses.

"We passed the night shivering and with the children crying. There were five of us wrapped in one blanket," said Ala Uddin, a 30-year-old farmer camped with about 15 relatives in an apple orchard.

He said relief supplies had yet to reach them, though people from other villages had brought them food.

In Wam, another wrecked village, rescuers on Thursday searched the rubble of the last house left unexamined, but found only an injured donkey, said Haji Khan, a volunteer from a nearby village.

Meanwhile, relatives of those killed in Wam were arriving to pay condolences. "Oh God, what have you done?" wailed one woman from Quetta, who said she had lost two brothers, two sons and a sister-in-law. She didn't give her name.

The latest quake comes at a precarious time for Pakistan, as the civilian government battles al-Qaida, faces Taliban attacks and grapples with a looming economic crisis.

At least three hard-line Islamic organizations were quick to aid quake survivors, according to an Associated Press reporter who toured the area.

Among them was Jamaat-ud-Dawa, designated a terrorist group by the U.S. government for links to Muslim separatists fighting in India's portion of the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir.

Dalai Lama's envoys to arrive in Beijing Thursday

BEIJING (AP)—Two envoys of the Dalai Lama headed to China on Thursday for fresh talks arranged just days after the exiled leader suggested it was time Tibetans rethink their strategy for engaging Beijing, a Tibetan official said.

The envoys, Lodi Gyari and Kelsang Gyaltsen, will be in Beijing for about a week, said Thupten Samphel, spokesman for the self-proclaimed Tibetan government-in-exile in the northern Indian hill town of Dharmsala.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu declined to comment on their arrival. "About that information, I believe the competent authorities will release it in due course," she told a regular news conference.

The last formal talks between the envoys and Chinese officials, the seventh since 2002, ended in an impasse in July, with China demanding that the Dalai Lama prove he does not support Tibetan independence and disruption of the Olympics in August.

China has governed the Himalayan region since communist troops occupied it in the 1950s.

The Dalai Lama, who fled to India amid a failed uprising in 1959, has followed a "middle way" approach with China, which means he wants some form of autonomy that would allow Tibetans to freely practice their culture, language and religion.

ASIAN BRIEFS

At least 30 killed in blasts in northeast India

GAUHATI, India (AP)—Police say at least 11 bombs have exploded across India's remote northeastern state of Assam, killing 30 people and wounded dozen more. An official at the police control room in the state capital Gauhati says that at least 10 died in four blasts in that city Thursday and 10 others died in blasts in other cities and towns in the western part of the state. An Associated Press reporter at the scene of one of the blasts says bodies are strewn across the road and cars are on fire.

Explosion in Bangkok wounds 10 at protest site

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)—A blast wounded 10 people in Thailand's capital Thursday when assailants hurled an explosive device at anti-government protesters who have camped out for the past two months to block access to the prime minister's office. The pre-dawn attack occurred a few hours before protesters rallied in central Bangkok outside the British Embassy to demand the extradition of deposed Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who is now a fugitive and living in London. About 1,000 protesters sealed off the embassy's street, chanting "Send Thaksin back!" The former prime minister was convicted in absentia earlier this month of violating a conflict of interest law and sentenced to two years in prison. Protesters then marched through a main Bangkok shopping district, disrupting traffic as they distributed anti-government leaflets to cars and pedestrians.

Suicide blast inside Afghan government building

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A suicide bomber blew himself up inside the Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture on Thursday, killing at least three people, officials and witnesses said. The Taliban claimed responsibility. The bomber shot two police officers outside the ministry building in the center of Kabul before entering the large hall inside, where he blew himself up, said Abdul Jabar, a security guard near the ministry building. It was unclear whether the officers died of their injuries. Zabiullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, said three militants stormed the building by throwing hand grenades at the guards at the main gate. One carried out the suicide attack and the other two fled, he told The Associated Press. It was impossible to immediately verify the details of Mujahid's claim.

World

US commander wants better police for Iraqi city

MOSUL, Iraq (AP)—A senior U.S. commander, acknowledging that Iraq's now most violent city has been neglected for too long, says that only well-trained police rather than military forces could ensure Mosul's long-term security.

Maj. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, who heads U.S. troops in northern Iraq, told senior Iraqi police officers Wednesday that when American and Iraqi army units inevitably pull out of the city, its security will be in the hands of a now undermanned and inadequately trained police.

Shortly before Hertling's arrival, a car bomb targeting police at a traffic circle killed two people and injured six others, according to a U.S. Military Police report.

In another incident, a grenade was tossed at U.S. troops by a passing motorist who was quickly apprehended. There were no reports of casualties in that attack.

But despite the almost daily violence, the U.S. military says attacks are down by almost half since May, when a major operation was launched to clear al-Qaida and other insurgent groups who fled Baghdad and other areas to Mosul in wake of the U.S. surge.

A second operation began Oct. 15, and the U.S. military says 23,000 Iraqi army and paramilitary police, along with U.S. army units, have now moved into the city, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad.

New Zealand surgeons cut giant tumor from baby

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Doctors removed a tumor from an East Timorese baby that was almost one-third the child's body weight during a life-saving operation in New Zealand, officials said Thursday.

Surgeons cut out the 7.3-pound benign tumor on Sunday from the abdomen of 14-month-old Alex Gonzaga at Wellington Hospital, hospital spokeswoman Trish Lee said.

The boy weighed about 24 pounds before the surgery and is expected to make a full recovery with no long term consequences, Lee said.

Bill Day, president of the Port Nicholson Rotary Club that sponsored the project, said Alex was already eating, moving about and well on the way to recovery.

"He's looking good, he's standing up holding on to mum, smiling and playing with toys— throwing things on the floor—you wouldn't think there was anything wrong with him," he told The Associated Press.

AP

In this photo released by the Port Nicholson Rotary Club and taken by the Wellington Hospital shows Alex Gonzaga, a 14-month-old East Timorese baby on a operating table as surgeons prepare to remove a tumor almost one-third of his body weight in Wellington, New Zealand, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008.

Doctors expect the boy will be ready to go home in about 10 days.

His mother, Elisa Da Conceicao, said she was very happy with the operation and looking forward to breast-feeding her son again, Wellington's Dominion Post newspaper reported Wednesday.

The tumor originally was spotted by a doctor in impoverished East Timor and scanned on a visiting medical ship. The operation in New Zealand involved a surgical team of 10 doctors.

Surgical team leader Brendon Bowkett said Alex would have died if he had not had the operation, in which 10 surgions removed the huge tumor mass from crucial structures, including the urinary tract.

WORLD BRIEFS

Syrian riot police form ring around US Embassy

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Hundreds of Syrian riot police have ringed the closed U.S. Embassy in Damascus ahead of a demonstration to protest a deadly U.S. raid near the Iraqi border. The troops, wearing helmets and armed with batons and shields, have taken up positions around the embassy and the adjacent U.S. residence building. Two fire engines are parked nearby. The anti-American rally is to take place at a square about a mile away. Thousands were expected to participate in the government-sanctioned protest. The Syrian government has demanded that Washington apologize for Sunday's cross-border helicopter strike by American special forces that killed eight people

5 dead in Congo violence, soldiers looting homes

GOMA, Congo (AP)—Witnesses say Congolese soldiers were looting homes and shops and an army commander says at least five people were killed overnight as rebels reached the outskirts of Goma. Col. Jonas Padiri said Thursday morning that his men are in control of Goma, the provincial capital of eastern Congo. Padiri would not acknowledge that his troops were responsible for the deaths, saying only the five people killed overnight died in the "siege." Hours earlier, Congolese soldiers commandeered cars, taxis and motorbikes in a retreat from advancing rebel fighters. They joined tens of thousands of terrified refugees struggling to stay ahead of the violence.

Cuba expects new US president to lift embargo

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Cuba's foreign minister says his government expects the next U.S. president to respond to overwhelming international demand and lift the 47-year-old U.S. trade embargo against Cuba. After the U.N. General Assembly supported repeal of the economic and commercial embargo by its highest margin ever—185 to 3 with 2 abstentions—on Wednesday, Felipe Perez Roque said in an interview that the winner of the Nov. 4 election should heed the message. "We expect that the new president will change the policy toward Cuba after nearly 50 years," he told the Associated Press. The United States has no diplomatic relations with Cuba, lists the country as a state sponsor of terror and has long sought to isolate it through travel restrictions and a trade embargo. The embargo, imposed in 1962, has been tightened during President Bush's two terms.

Off The Wall

A man passes by an ice sculpture entitled "Main Street Meltdown," in New York, Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008.

As economy melts away, so does New York sculpture

NEW YORK (AP)—The economy is melting—literally. Two artists on Wednesday installed a 1,500-pound ice sculpture that spelled the word "Economy" in Manhattan's financial district.

The "Main Street Meltdown" was to remain in Foley Square until it melted—about 24 hours. By Wednesday evening, the E and the C had already thawed and vanished.

The backdrop to the sculpture - the wide stairs and row of pillars fronting the state Supreme Court building - is instantly recognizable to millions of viewers of TV's "Law & Order."

"To see the word 'economy' melting down is representational of an extreme time," artists Nora Ligorano and Marshall Reese said on their Web site.

The artists said the sculpture, which is 5 feet tall, 15 feet wide and sits on a pedestal, was installed on Oct. 29 because it is the 79th anniversary of the day in 1929 when the stock market crashed, precipitating the Great Depression.

"Economy" is the fourth in a series of political ice sculptures Ligorano and Reese have created. Earlier this year, they carved blocks into the word "Democracy" and allowed them to melt during the Republican and Democratic conventions.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Calif. man accused of driving stolen SUV to court

SAN ANSELMO, Calif. (AP)—Police have charged a man with stealing a Lexus SUV he drove to court the day a jury was to decide whether to convict him in a separate auto theft case. The man, a 37-year-old San Francisco hairstylist, was arraigned Monday on charges of receiving a stolen vehicle and receiving stolen property after police saw him approach the stolen Lexus in front of the courthouse with its keys in hand. Police were attracted to the SUV after bystanders noticed several Yorkshire terriers mulling around it. The man was also charged with animal cruelty and leaving animals in an unattended vehicle. Meanwhile, he was convicted in the other case. He was charged with possession of a $125,000 Porsche Carrera that had been stolen from a San Anselmo home.

Cop directing traffic spots man driving his truck

FRISCO, Texas (AP)—A police officer directing traffic outside of a concert in suburban Dallas noticed a familiar-looking truck driving by—his own. The startling sight led to the arrest of James Matthew Herring, 22, who is charged with theft and evading arrest, police said. Officer Jerry Varner said he parked his maroon pickup about 100 yards from where he was directing traffic Saturday night. He said he didn't notice anyone breaking in but recognized his truck coming toward him. Varner ordered the driver to pull over. Instead, the man put the truck in reverse and attempted to flee, striking several vehicles, police said. Police cars eventually surrounded the truck. The driver tried to run but was soon caught, police said. Herring's court-appointed attorney said he hadn't met with his client and declined to comment.

Funeral home parties with replica Elvis casket

BARTONVILLE, Ill. (AP)—The owners of Endsley Funeral Home in Bartonville wanted to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the business by putting a little "fun" into "funeral." So, for their open house Saturday, they put a replica of Elvis Presley's 650-pound casket on display and hired Elvis impersonator Dave Stovall to dance around it and sing a few of the King's most famous songs. Stovall said he was so impressed by the casket he wanted to lie down in it for a while. Embalmer Stephanie Van Oppen explained the apparent irreverence by saying the staff wanted people to have fun at the funeral home for once, and get to know that its employees aren't creepy and weird. Nearly 300 people from Peoria and Tazewell counties attended the bash.

Girl returns $1,000 found in Richard Simmons tape

HONOLULU (AP)—The best bargain at the Salvation Army thrift store in Kailua-Kona was a Richard Simmons videotape. But Mikela Mercier, 11, decided to pass up the chance to buy the tape for a few coins after she found a surprise inside: $1,000 in $100 bills. Mikela said that when she discovered the money while browsing through the used tapes, she immediately looked for her mom who was inside the dressing room and told her they needed to turn it in. Store manager Jimmy Thennes put out a news release on the discovery, praising Mikela for her honesty. Her mother, Jodi Mercier, said she is very proud of her daughter who she says knew it belonged to the Salvation Army so the agency can help more people in need.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

VICENTE W. KAIPAT and LEONILA S. KAIPAT (collectively "Trustor"), on or about April 21, 1994, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation formerly known as Marianas Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on May 10, 1994, under Document No. 94-1199 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Lot No. 005 I 330, containing an area of 1,109 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey's Official Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 07, dated September 8, 1982, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 18433, dated September 30, 1983 the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 5, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$29,730.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$29,730.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

NOVA ANN T. QUITUGUA and RAY J. TAITAGUE (collectively "Trustor"), on or about September 24, 1998, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on September 28, 1998, under Document No. 98-3008 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 330 R 232, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 924 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 330 R 05, DATED MARCH 13, 1992, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 92-861, DATED MARCH 16, 1992, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$69,890.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$69,890.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

CARMENT T. ANDON and SAMUEL M. ANDON (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 22, 2004, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on November 2, 2004, under Document No. 04-2544 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 G 308, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 797 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 011 G 06, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4414, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$61,150.00.** Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$61,150.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

BLAS T. MAGOFNA ("Trustor"), on or about January 12, 1995, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on January 20, 1995, under Document No. 95-143 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 002 B 12, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 737 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 5014/94, DATED FEBRUARY 7, 1994, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 94-396, DATED FEBRUARY 10, 1994, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$108,660.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$108,660.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Science & Technology

Study finds videoconferences distort decisions

NEW YORK (AP)—Videoconferencing is often heralded as the next best thing to being somewhere—a cheaper, simpler alternative to traveling in person to attend a meeting. Yet a small study raises questions about whether videoconferencing distorts interactions in a subtle but important way.

The study found that doctors and nurses who attended seminars via videoconference were more likely to be influenced by the charisma of the presenter. In contrast, people who were face-to-face with the presenter were more likely to base their judgment of the presentation on the arguments that were used, the researchers said.

Carlos Ferran at Pennsylvania State University and Stephanie Watts at Boston University quizzed 44 medical professionals who took part in early morning medical seminars via business-quality video links, and 99 peers who were in the room with the presenters. The subjects were asked about how likely they would be to refer a patient to the speaker at the seminar, and how likable they felt he or she was, among other things.

In their study published in the September issue of the journal Management Science, the researchers hypothesize that a videoconference is mentally more challenging than a face-to-face meeting. That leaves less brainpower left over to process the content of the presentation. Cues we use in conversation, such as looking at people's gazes to figure out to whom they are talking, are harder to follow in a videoconference.

The videoconference participants were more likely to report that it was hard to follow what the speaker was saying, and reported higher levels of stress during the seminars.

The researchers noted that previous studies in the field have shown mixed results for videoconferencing compared to face-to-face meetings.

French try plane technology in artificial heart

LONDON (AP)—In the race to build a better artificial heart, French scientists have turned to technology from satellites and airplanes to create a heart that they say responds better to the human body. So far, the new device, shown at a news conference in Paris on Monday, has only been tested in animals. Its makers hope it might one day help people survive without needing a human heart transplant.

American companies have already produced artificial hearts, and scientists in Japan and South Korea are also working on versions.

But the French artificial heart is the first to be able to determine its patients' needs and respond accordingly. And its maker is a subsidiary of the parent company of Airbus, the European Aeronautic Defense and Space Co., or EADS.

"It's the same principle in the airplane as in the body," said Patrick Coulombier, chief operating officer of Carmat, the manufacturer.

Coulombier said the same tiny sensors that measure air pressure and altitude in an airplane or satellite are also in the artificial heart, detecting things like the heart's pumping speed and the pressure on its walls.

That should allow the device to respond immediately if the patient needs more or less blood. The heart is expected to cost about $192,140. The most advanced U.S. artificial heart, made by the U.S. company Abiomed, sells for up to $250,000.

AP

The prototype of a fully implantable artificial heart is seen at the biomedical firm Carmat in Suresnes, west of Paris, Monday, Oct. 27, 2008.

GTC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HAUNTED HOUSE
STUDENTS: $1.00
ADULTS: $2.00
HALLOWEEN NITE,
OCTOBER 31, 2008
5:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
GTC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GROUNDS
ALL THE WITCHES, GHOSTS AND GOBLINS ARE COMIN' TO GTC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR A NITE OF FRIGHT, HORROR, SCREAMS AND FUN... OPEN TO ALL AGES!!
SPONSORED BY THE GTC PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION AND SUPPORTERS
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR DIRECTIONS, CALL 664-3400
GTC

HELP FILE

By ROB PEGORARO
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Q: Why are you so down on Windows Vista's 64-bit edition? I run it, and I haven't encountered any problems.

A: You can find the 64-bit edition of Vista—so named for its ability to process larger chunks of data than the normal, 32-bit version—on an increasing number of PCs. This option can seem like an obvious step up: More is better, right?

But 64-bit Vista doesn't provide much benefit for many home users. It lets you work with extremely large files, but most people at home don't open anything bigger than a short video clip or one of Microsoft's Service Pack downloads. Complex computations can also run faster in this version—but again, few nonprofessional users will see a significant speedup from this ability.

Vista's 64-bit edition, unlike the 32-bit flavors of Windows we've been using for years, can also accommodate 4 gigabytes or more of memory, and that may provide a simpler explanation for its newfound popularity. As memory gets cheaper and consumers become more aware of Vista's appetite for it, computer manufacturers have been shipping more memory on new systems—but once they hit 4 gigs, they have to load 64-bit Vista.

This version doesn't cost extra, and by all accounts, it accepts far more 32-bit programs than 64-bit XP ever did. It also adds some useful system-level security upgrades. But old programs can still have problems, and older drivers (the software that lets Windows talk to peripherals such as printers) may not run at all.

You should at least inventory your old hardware and software before buying a computer with 64-bit Vista to see if they'll still work. If, however, you don't get more than 3 gigs of memory on your next machine—even for Vista, that's a lot—you can stick with 32-bit Vista and dodge this entire issue.

■ ■ ■ ■

I talk a lot about user interfaces that I like or dislike in new programs and gadgets. What goes into these rants and raves?

I look for four basic qualities: One, an interface should be "discoverable"; you shouldn't have to read the manual or scan every menu to find out how to perform basic jobs. Two, it has to be efficient; you should be able to perform these tasks with a minimum number of steps. Three, it must be consistent; learning how to do one task should make you that much smarter about the next one. Four, I would like it to be elegant; it's no crime for an application or a device to show a little style that makes it a pleasure to use. (Warning: Spending too much time pondering these aspects may lead you to find fault with the interfaces of random everyday objects, from stovetops to bus stops.)

■ ■ ■ ■

When you copy text from what I'll politely call an "aggressively designed" Web page into an e-mail message, the results can look awful. Your recipient can be stuck trying to read characters that are too small or appear in a color that barely stands out from the background.

To avoid this risk, you can paste the text and nothing but the text: Most mail programs include a command under their Edit menus that will ignore any formatting in the original page. In Microsoft's Outlook, select the "Paste Special ..." command and then choose "Unformatted Text." In Mozilla Thunderbird, choose "Paste Without Formatting." In Apple's Mail, this option is called "Paste and Match Style." Microsoft's Outlook Express and Windows Mail, unfortunately, don't offer this option.

Life & Style

Roundup of spooktacular events for Halloween

It's that time of year again. Put on your zombie, witch or Sarah Palin costume; it's time for Halloween!

Here are some of the events and promotions celebrating the holiday:

USSP Bar
Spooky Friday Buddy Night. Come with your guy or ghoul friends and get first drink 50 percent off. Starts at 7pm to close. Wear a costume and win cool Bud gear.

Free Glow Sticks
Pick up your free glow stick today at the MCV Broadband Office or Mobil stations at the following locations: Middle Road, Beach Garapan, Kagman or Susupe. Glow sticks are limited to two per person. Just say "MCV Cable Cares" to get a free glow stick.

Godfather's Bar
KZMI-FM 103.9 and Godfather's Bar are linking up for what looks to be one of Saipans' biggest Halloween parties. The Petron and Miller Lite Halloween Bash will be held at Godfather's Bar in Garapan tonight starting at 8pm. Everyone at the party wearing a costume will receive one free Miller family product.

There will be fun and games, including Sexy Witch Contest, Werewolf Competition (hairiest back), Vampire Sucking Contest, Best Costume Contest, and the unlucky Draw. There are plenty cash prizes.

Pacific Islands Club
Spooktacular activities for water park patrons from 10 am to 5 pm. Water park pass is $20 per person. Magellan and Water park promo is $25 for adults and $20 for children.

■ A draculicious Magellan Dinner Buffet from 6:30 pm to 9pm. $32 for adults and $16 for children

■ Gory Haunted house. Doors open at 7 pm. $5 fee. Free entrance for Magellan dinner party patrons.

■ Costume contest for adults and kids at 8:45 pm in Charley's.

■ Ghouls, goblins and monsters rage on stage in electrifying production numbers at 9:15pm. Free entrance

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan
This Garapan landmark promises the biggest tick-or-treat on Saipan, with activities beginning at 10am. They have lined up face paintings, pumpkin carving, outdoor games, Haunted House photo opportunity, a costume parade and contest for the scariest, cutest, sexiest, and by pairs.

There will also be live entertainment: Concert of the Saipan Singing Superstars Kids' Champions and a Dance Concert featuring the kids of Angel's International School of Dance.

Fiesta will also have its Friday Seafood Madness: Seafood lunch is $16.99 for adults, $8.49 per child, while Seafood Dinner at 6pm is for $20 for adults and $10 for kids.

Palms Resort Saipan

■ Dinner buffet at Fresko Restaurant. 6pm to 9pm. $12 for adult and $8 for children

■ Kiddie Full Costume contest to win prizes. Ages 4-11 only.

■ Creepy House bottomless beers and sodas at PauPau Bar. 8 pm to 10:30 pm. $15 per person admission fee. Must be 21 years old.

■ Halloween weekend room promotion. Friday through Sunday. $77 a night for two, includes room tax and breakfast for two

■ Stop by front desk in your Halloween costume on Friday before 9 pm and get a room for $55 a night for two people.

■ Face painting from 4 pm to 7 pm

■ Trick or treating at 6 pm

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School
Halloween Haunted House from 5 pm to 9 pm. $1 for students and $2 for adults

Northern Marianas Academy Student Council
Halloween dance from 6pm to 10pm at Garapan Central Park. $5 in advance and $7 at the door

Kagman Haunted House
The Kagman Komunidat Association is inviting the public to the Kagman Haunted House scheduled for today, Oct. 31, at the Kagman Community Center. Doors open at 7pm.

NMC Haunted House
The Associated Students of the Northern Marianas College will be sponsoring a Haunted House today, Oct. 31, 2008. Community members are invited to the event, which will be held from 7:30pm to 11:30pm at NMC's Building V (Studio Warehouse). Admission price for those 10 years old and younger is 50 cents, and anyone older than 10 years old is $1. Free candy will be distributed at the event!

How to enjoy the treat without the trick!

By LORI I. SERNA RDH, MED.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

It is that time of the year again when children and children at heart dress up and go in search of that forbidden fruit, or should I say candy. Halloween without candy is like Winter without snow and since it is inevitable that the children as well as adults will indulge in some candy, here is some advice to increase the joy without increasing the risk for cavities.

It is important to remember that candy and sweets do not cause cavities. It is a fact that plaque when left on tooth structure (enamel) will form an acid that will make a hole in the tooth, which we refer to as a dental cavity. However eating a lot of candy can be a factor in developing many dental cavities. So what is the healthiest way to savor the many sweets that "trick-or-treating" bring?

■ Be safe: Always check the candy and keep only the candy that looks unopened and safe to eat, make sure and adult is with you when you check the candy

■ Pace yourself: divide the candy into small "piles" of 2-3. This way instead of eating all at once and risking a tummy ache, you can enjoy your sweets for a week or even longer.

■ Eat smart: eat your small pile right after lunch or dinner. This will decrease the chances of getting a cavity because you will prevent in between snacking.

■ If you must eat candy in between meals always follow up with a glass of water so that the sugar is rinsed from your mouth and the neutral environment of your mouth can be maintained.

■ Don't forget to visit your Dentist/Dental Hygienist twice a year for a check-up.

■ Have fun and have a great and safe HALLOWEEN!

■■■

October is National Dental Hygiene month and the SDA Dental Clinic is offering FREE dental exams, please call 234-6323 to schedule your appointment.

Lori I. Serna RDH, Med. is a dental hygienist at the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP: 2008-CDA-08-RFP

CLOSING DATE: Friday, October 31, 2008 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FY2009 & 2010 FOR THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY & THE NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, WAKIN'S BLDG., GUALO RAI, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS OR BY FACSIMILE REQUEST TO 235-7147.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/OSCAR C. CAMACHO
Acting, CEO

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

MARINA A. BAUTISTA and LORETO L. BAUTISTA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about November 15, 1999, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on November 15, 1999, under Document No. 99-2777 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 G 972, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 781 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 011 G 18, DATED DECEMBER 3, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4286, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$93,680.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$93,680.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

ELOY T. DELA CRUZ and SHIRLEY ANN R. DELA CRUZ (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 23, 2002, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 29, 2002, under Document No. 02-2209 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Lot No. 002 G 263, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1904, dated May 14, 1990, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 5, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$57,730.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$57,730.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

BRADLEY JOHN TOVES ATALIG aka LARRY JOHN TOVES ATALIG and NANETTE E. ATALIG (collectively "Trustor"), on or about September 20, 2001, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 2, 2001, under Document No. 01-2166 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 347 R 96, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 827 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 347 R 07, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4282, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$52,680.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$52,680.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Reeves' attorney chips away at paparazzo

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A paparazzo suing Keanu Reeves told jurors Tuesday that he could not remember giving conflicting accounts of an incident involving the actor that he claims left him seriously injured.

Alison Silva buckled under questioning by Reeves' defense attorney and acknowledged he was beaten by fellow photographers while shooting photos of Britney Spears earlier this year. That assault came roughly a year after the incident in which Silva claims Reeves hit him with a car and left him unable to work.

Silva acknowledged the beating left him unconscious and forced him to delay a second surgery to repair damage in his left wrist he attributes to the run-in with Reeves.

The 28-year-old Brazilian-born paparazzo spent his second day testifying about the incident and his subsequent treatment. He is suing the star of "The Matrix" and "Speed," claiming he hit him with his Porsche in March 2007 while Silva was trying to shoot photos of the actor behind the wheel.

Jurors on Wednesday also heard from a fire department captain who testified that Silva complained of pain in his left knee moments after his fall, despite his later statements to doctors and testimony that Reeves' Porsche hit his right knee and that it hurt afterward.

The captain also testified that Silva was clutching his camera when paramedics arrived, contrary to the paparazzo's testimony that he dropped his camera when he says Reeves hit him with his Porsche. Silva was generally able to answer his attorney's questions directly Tuesday and Wednesday.

AP

In this Oct. 1, 2008 file photo, Keanu Reeves arrives at Target Presents AFI Night at the Movies in Los Angeles.

But he repeated told Reeves' attorney, Mark D. Williams, that he could not remember aspects of the incident and statements he made to emergency responders and doctors.

Williams questioned Silva about telling an eyewitness that the incident was "an accident" then later allegedly telling an emergency room doctor that Reeves had sped toward him and tried to flee the scene.

In fact, Reeves remained at the scene, tried to summon help for Silva and attempted to talk to him after his fall.

Silva acknowledged he never responded to Reeves questions, but called a fellow paparazzo who came to retrieve his camera.

Jurors also listened to testimony about the injuries to Silva's left wrist. A doctor who evaluated Silva after an initial surgery failed acknowledged that the photographer told his staff that Reeves drove up onto a sidewalk to hit him.

Reeves and Silva have both testified that Silva fell in the street and Reeves' Porsche moved only a few feet.

The doctor testified that even with another surgery to repair his wrist, Silva may not be able to grip items properly afterward.

The case is expected to go to jurors by Friday. Silva will return to the stand on Thursday to undergo more questioning by Williams, who may offer jurors more details about Silva's beating by other paparazzi.

Despite sometimes contentious testimony Wednesday, Silva gushed at Reeves at one point, saying he followed his career and was nervous while shooting pictures of him.

"I'm a big fan," he said, acknowledging that Reeves had been cordial to him even after the trial began Monday.

As he heaped praise on the actor, Silva raised his left hand to motion to motion toward Reeves—the same one he had raised moments earlier to jurors to point out a surgical scar.

New jury hears arguments in Spector murder retrial

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A prosecutor on Wednesday portrayed eccentric musical genius Phil Spector as a man who repeatedly threatened women with guns and could become "very sinister, very violent and very deadly" when he was drunk.

The opening statement by prosecutor Alan Jackson in Spector's retrial on a murder charge drew scrutiny from defense attorney Doron Weinberg, who called it an effort to try Spector for his character, rather than for the crime he is accused of committing.

Prosecutors claim Spector shot actress Lana Clarkson in 2003 after she resisted his sexual advances.

"This is turning into the trial of his character, which this court knows is clearly unconstitutional and impermissible," Weinberg told Superior Court Judge Larry Fidler outside the jury's presence.

Weinberg later moved for a mistrial, saying the jury had been intentionally poisoned by the remarks. Fidler rejected the motion.

In a speech reminiscent of the one he gave at the first trial, Jackson briefly described the killing of Clarkson at Spector's mansion and displayed photos showing her in life and death. One image showed her body slumped in a chair with blood all over her face.

Jackson also recounted the statement of a chauffeur who told of Spector emerging from the house saying: "I think I killed somebody."

Jackson delivered his statement before a packed courtroom, with Clarkson's mother and sister seated in the front row. Spector wore a black pinstriped suit and white tie and was accompanied to court by his wife, Rachelle, and a bodyguard.

In Weinberg's opening statement, he said the prosecution "does not have evidence that Mr. Spector killed Lana Clarkson, because he didn't." He contended the evidence will show her gunshot wound was self-inflicted.

Clarkson, who had recently turned 40 and experienced personal and career setbacks, might have shot herself in a moment of despair as she prepared to leave Spector's house, Weinberg said.

"She could have been thinking, 'Is this where I am? Is this where I'm going?'" Weinberg told jurors. "At that moment, to do something impulsive and self-destructive is entirely consistent with where she was."

Weinberg also said forensic analysis of blood spatter and gunshot residue would show that Spector did not fire the gun.

During Spector's first trial, the defense also had argued Clarkson became despondent over her fading career and killed herself.

Model loses lawsuit, claims personal victory

NEW YORK (AP)—Carol Alt, claiming a victory of sorts in a court loss, smiled through her tears Wednesday as she said a judge's decision that her ex-husband owed her no money finally frees her from the most important relationship of her supermodel years.

"I feel vindicated and free. These are tears of joy," said Alt, facing cameras outside U.S. District Court in Manhattan after Judge Colleen McMahon found that the statute of limitations had run out on her rights to $165,000 in shares of a water filtration business.

Alt, a former Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue cover girl, said the $1 million lawsuit she brought in 2007 was not an "anger thing" but instead was an effort to bring resolution to a lingering financial tie to former New York Rangers defenseman Ron Greschner, to whom she was married for 18 years until 2001. "It's really finally over," she said. "It's like an ending, a solid ending."

Alt, 47, testified a day earlier that she trusted Greschner, 53, to handle her finances even after they signed a separation agreement in 1997, a decision she insisted she does not regret.

"If I went back right now I'd do the same thing," she said. "Call me stupid. Call me a dumb brunette, not a blond."

Alt, who recently posed for the December issue of Playboy magazine, approached Greschner after the court proceeding to wish him well.

"This is the last place I wanted to be," she told him.

Outside court, Alt told reporters: "When he speaks to me, he still touches my heart."

She added, though: "I feel sad that he has no memory of our life together."

Greschner, of West Palm Beach, Fla., declined to comment immediately after the court proceeding.

He spoke at length a day earlier about the joy he gets raising five children, ranging in age from 3 to 12, from another relationship.

In court papers, Alt's lawyer had written that Alt and Greschner separated under "extremely amicable circumstances" because Alt could not conceive after a battle with cervical and uterine cancer and Greschner strongly desired to have children.

Alt said raw food cured her cancer and led her to write multiple cookbooks. She called Greschner "one of the smartest people I know" and said she was happy he had "five beautiful children."

Jill Jackson's HOLLYWOOD

By JILL JACKSON

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HOLLYWOOD—Happily, we'll be seeing Julie Andrews on the screen again. She's doing a film titled "Tooth Fairy," about a minor-league hockey player who is constantly knocking out his opponents' front teeth. He is ordered to do a week's hard labor as a real tooth fairy, dressed in a tutu with a wand and wings. Julie plays a high-ranking, acerbic supervisor overseeing the stint. This doesn't seem like such a great role for the talents of Andrews, but after all, how can you top "My Fair Lady" or "The Sound of Music"?

The push is on for two more Spider-Man films. However, they may be a long time coming—like May of 2011. Meanwhile, Tobey Maguire continues to tootle about town on his bicycle. And did you know the first three "Spidey" films grossed $2.5 BILLION at the box office? Oh, and by the way, Tobey also does a lot of yoga, and does not drink or smoke or eat meat. And he once said, "I think I'm going somewhere between Tom Hanks and John Malkovich."

Julie Andrews

Val Kilmer, Eric Roberts and Armand Assante are set to star in "The Steam Experiment," about six people trapped in an urban Turkish bathhouse. Kilmer plays a former university professor who overheats his hostages to prove that humans dissolve into chaos under the pressure of global warming. The six victims are a former football player (Roberts), a former actress (Megan Brown), a nurse, a waitress, a restaurateur and a writer. As the temperature rises, the captives fight for survival. Scary, huh?

Further on the filming front, Denzel Washington has signed on to star in a futuristic drama titled "The Book of Eli." It's about a not-so-distant future where America is a wasteland and a lone warrior (Washington) fights to bring society the knowledge that is the key to its redemption. In college at Fordham University, Denzel played football and basketball and also wrote a lot of poetry. He has four children and two Oscars.

For me, one of the best shows on the air is "The Kennedy Center Presents." And this year promises to be one of the best, what with honorees Barbra Streisand, Morgan Freeman, Roger Daltrey, Twyla Tharp and Pete Townshend. The show takes place Dec. 7 on the opera-house stage at the Kennedy Center and will be taped for CBS airing.

Weep not for Tori Spelling, although on her TV show she has money problems. In real life this daughter of producer Aaron Spelling inherited $800,000, and her mom, Candy, has lots more. In his lifetime, Aaron made mega millions after starting out from scratch. I had the pleasure of knowing him from the time he didn't to the time he did, and he was a lovely man.

■ ■ ■

BITS 'N' PIECES: "Surfer, Dude" premiered in Austin, Texas, and it was a "rip roarin' ride" what with Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson kicking up their heels. ... And Keira Knightley was gorgeous at "The Duchess" preem on London's Leicester Square.... Matthew Perry is hard at work creating a comedy for Showtime titled "The End of Steve," about an egomaniacal talk-show host. ... I don't know whether it's true, but I read where Joan Crawford was such a "clean freak" that she went around wiping all her doorknobs after guests left.

John Legend looks to reach stadium heights with CD

NEW YORK (AP)—A platinum CD is hardly a disappointment, especially in these rocky times, when even veteran acts find it hard to crack the one-million mark.

But John Legend admits to being slightly disappointed to the response to his last album, "Once Again." It's not that it was flop compared to his debut, "Get Lifted," which also went platinum. And it's not like he didn't win accolades off of his sophomore CD: He earned a Grammy, and now has five to put on his mantle.

But the retro-soul CD, while a critical and commercial success, didn't have any true breakout hits, and didn't grow his audience like he had hoped.

So with his new CD, "Evolver," Legend is aiming to become an artist that can fill arenas, not just theaters. He has some big-time help: Not only is friend and mentor Kanye West back for an assist, Legend also called in Andre 3000, Ne-Yo and Pharrell.

AP

Singer John Legend makes an appearance on MTV's "Total Request Live" on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008 in New York.

AP: You say your new record features a new side of you.

Legend: One of the things that I was thinking was, "You know, I wanna go from a theater artist to an arena artist." And, part of my thinking when I was doing this was what album do I have to make to make that transition? First of all, (I need) to make songs that are going to fill up an arena and feel like they belong in that big space, so I wanted to make bigger sounding songs and more anthemic sounding songs. And then I just wanted to be more successful even then I've been in the past. ... But when you actually get in the studio, it's not really about the overall goals, it's about going in trying to make a great song, trying to make a great record.

AP: Estelle is your artist and she made a big debut on the charts this year in the United States. How did working on Estelle help you in your creative process?

Legend: We finished Estelle's album pretty much before I even started mine, so I think I actually learned from making her album with her, because I was very involved. I think it actually helped me realize that my writing voice could be applied to different beats than what I was using on the second album. It made me realize that because I wrote the chorus for "American Boy" - why I can't I write the same kind of chorus for myself over the same kind of beat? So I think it opened me up to different kind of songs.

AP: Do you think to be an arena artist you have to put yourself out in the media more, or in the tabloids?

Legend: I don't want to. Coldplay doesn't have to. You don't read about read about Chris Martin every day in the tabloids, Bruce Springsteen, any number of artists. You read about for instance, Britney Spears all the time and her last album didn't even sell that well. You read about Lindsay Lohan all the time her last album didn't sell that well, nor have her movies sold that well, so "I don't think there's that strong of a correlation between tabloid coverage and album sales.

AP: You've been an active Barack Obama supporter. Did you plan to be as involved as you have been?

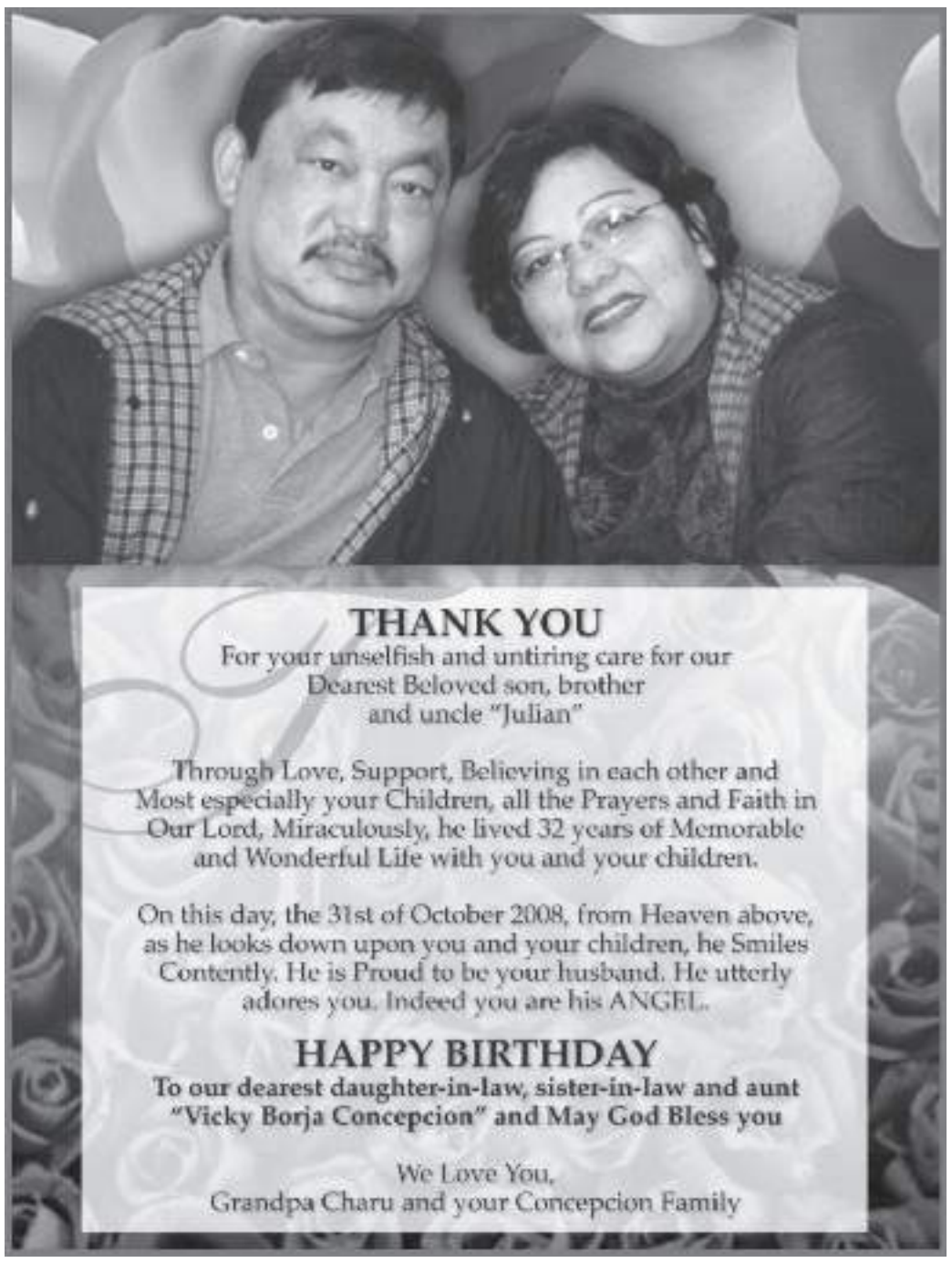
Legend: Truth be told I actually haven't done that many events. But they've been high profile things, particularly the "Yes We Can" video was very high profile and seen by so many people. So it seems like I've been working nonstop for Obama even though it's only been six or seven days out of my time. But I'm glad to have even been able to have done that much, because we have been able to make an impact.

AP: Your "Show Me" campaign is designed to stop poverty in Africa. Do you ever get frustrated about affecting change through your charity?

Legend: It's hard. These people are living on less than a dollar a day, and there's no solution that's gonna end poverty right away. But the thing we decided to do was take small steps and try to change what we can in a controlled situation, so the money and villages allow us to do that, because they focus on a certain geographical area. ... Am I gonna solve the entire problem? No, but I'm going to make a difference in the lives of the people in that village, and if I can help save the lives of those people and help them live a better life and get them on the ladder to economic success, than it's worth the effort that I put in.

AP: Kanye is singing on his new album and your new CD. Have you given him any critiques on his vocal skills?

Legend: (laughs) No, I haven't given him any critiques. I'm letting him do his thing. I think him and Auto-Tune are doing just fine together, and I guess I'm out of job now, he's going to be able to sing all of his own hooks.


THANK YOU
For your unselfish and untiring care for our
Dearest Beloved son, brother
and uncle "Julian"
Through Love, Support, Believing in each other and
Most especially your Children, all the Prayers and Faith in
Our Lord, Miraculously, he lived 32 years of Memorable
and Wonderful Life with you and your children.
On this day, the 31st of October 2008, from Heaven above,
as he looks down upon you and your children, he Smiles
Contently. He is Proud to be your husband. He utterly
adores you. Indeed you are his ANGEL.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
To our dearest daughter-in-law, sister-in-law and aunt
"Vicky Borja Concepcion" and May God Bless you
We Love You,
Grandpa Charu and your Concepcion Family

Message of Appreciation

With heartfelt compassion and sincere gratitude we the family of

Modesta Agulto Bartolo

Born: November 4, 1954
Died: October 12, 2008

extend our gracious appreciation to all our relatives, friends and neighbors for your kind expression of love, sympathy and support during this difficult time of sorrow. For the many whom extended their love and support during our saddest time of great loss and grief.

Your prayers during the nightly rosary and the Mass of Christian Burial has lightened the endurance of our pain.

We thank you more than words can express. As you have remembered our beloved in your prayers, we will also remember you in ours.

Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

CELEBRITY EXTRA

By CINDY ELAVSKY
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: I am a huge fan of Emeril, and I have noticed he is no longer on the Food Network. What happened?—Nancy A., Ithaca, N.Y.

A: Emeril Lagasse, known to many for his signature phrases "BAM!" and "Kick it up a notch," can still be seen on the Food Network in "Essence of Emeril." However, as of December 2007, his live show has ceased production. You can catch your favorite chef on The Discovery Channel's Planet Green in his new show, "Emeril Green," which is set in a Whole Foods Market. Emeril helps shoppers choose the best organic foods and then helps them use those foods to prepare a delicious and nutritious meal. Don't forget, you can get your fill of Emeril, and more, at his information-filled Web site, www.emerils.com.

■ ■ ■

Q: Will the show "Escape to Chimp Eden" on Animal Planet be back for a second season?—Connie H., Coshocton, Ohio

A: "Escape to Chimp Eden" debuted on Animal Planet back in February 2008. The series focuses on the rescue of abused and neglected chimpanzees. Eugene Cussons, South African Rescue Director for Chimp Eden, seeks out these abused chimps and takes them back to Chimp Eden for rehabilitation. Eugene's genuine love and connection to these chimps is evident as he teaches them routine, daily tasks on their road to rehabilitation. It was recently announced that Season 2 of "Escape to Chimp Eden" would begin airing in January 2009.

■ ■ ■

Q: Who is the blond woman who replaced Caroline Rhea as the host of "The Biggest Loser" on NBC? I feel like I have seen her somewhere before.—Hailey E., via e-mail

A: Alison Sweeney, 32, is known to many soap-opera fans as Sami Brady from "Days of Our Lives." She has made her mark in prime time, however, guest starring on "Friends" and "Las Vegas." She also had a memorable turn on the gross-out game show "Fear Factor," where she almost had a panic attack being locked in a box with worms, cockroaches and snakes. "The Biggest Loser: Families" began airing in September, with Alison returning as the show's host. Alison also is active with Thermos' Hydration for All program (hydrationforall.com).

■ ■ ■

Q: Whatever happened to Melissa Sue Anderson, the little girl who played Mary Ingalls on "Little House on the Prairie"? Is she still in show business?—Kathy K., Wilmington, Del.

A: Melissa (she has since dropped "Sue" from her professional name), 45, still dabbles in show business; most recently she was in the 2006 television miniseries "10.5: Apocalypse." Since "Little House," Melissa has co-starred on "The Love Boat," "The Equalizer," "Burke's Law" and "Partners." In 2007—along with husband Michael Sloan and their children, Piper and Griffin -- Melissa became a Canadian citizen. She still keeps in touch with many of her "Little House" castmates.

Have a question for Cindy? E-mail her at letters@cindyelavsky.com, or write to her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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★ ★ ★ **NOW SHOWING** ★ ★ ★

Zack and Miri Make a Porno

Friday		4:15	7:20	9:50
Saturday	1:25	4:15	7:20	9:50
Sunday	1:25	4:15	7:20	
Mon and Tue		4:15	7:20	

Seth Rogen, Elizabeth Banks
Romantic Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis
Lifelong friends and roommates Zack and Miri are facing hard times and a mountain of debt. When the electricity and plumbing get cut off, they seize upon the idea of making a homegrown porno movie for some quick cash, enlisting the help of their friends. The two vow that having sex will not ruin their friendship. But as filming begins, what started out as a business proposition between friends turns into something much more.

The Duchess

Friday		4:10	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:25	
Mon and Tue		4:10	7:25	

Keira Knightley, Ralph Fiennes
Drama, Biopic • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Long before the concept existed, the Duchess of Devonshire, Georgiana Spencer, was the original "It Girl." Like her direct descendent Princess Diana, she was ravishing, glamorous and adored by an entire country. Determined to be a player in the wider affairs of the world, she proved that she could out-gamble, out-drink and outwit most of the aristocratic men who surrounded her. She helped usher in sweeping changes to England as a leader of the forward-thinking Whig Party.

★ ★ ★

High School Musical 3

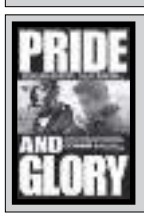
Friday		4:00	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:15	4:00	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:15	4:00	7:10	
Mon and Tue		4:00	7:10	

Zac Efron, Ashley Tisdale
Musical • Rated G

Beverly Hills Chihuahua

Friday		4:05	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:05	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	4:05	7:00	
Mon and Tue		4:05	7:00	

Drew Barrymore (v), Andy Garcia (v)
Comedy, Adventure • Rated PG



Pride and Glory

Friday		4:30	7:15	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:30	7:15	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:30	7:15	
Mon and Tue		4:30	7:15	

Edward Norton, Colin Farrell
Drama, Crime, Animated • Rated R

Eagle Eye

Friday		4:20	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05	
Mon and Tue		4:20	7:05	

Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan
Drama • Rated PG 13

Max Payne

Friday		4:25	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:25	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:30	4:25	7:30	
Mon and Tue		4:25	7:30	

Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis
Action, Adventure • Rated PG 13

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TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 POP SINGLES
This Week Last Week
1. Britney Spears No. 96 "Womanizer" (Jive)
2. T.I. No. 2 "Whatever You Like" (Grand Hustle)
3. T.I. feat. Rihanna No. 1 "Live Your Life" (Def Jam/Grand Hustle)
4. Pink No. 3 "So What" (LaFace)
5. Katy Perry No. 6 "Hot N Cold" (Capitol)
6. Rihanna No. 4 "Disturbia" (SRP/Def Jam)
7. Kevin Rudolf feat. Lil Wayne No. 5 "Let It Rock" (Cash Money)
8. T-Pain feat. Lil Wayne No. 8 "Can't Believe It" (Nappy Boy/Konvict/Jive)
9. Ne-Yo No. 11 "Miss Independent" (Def Jam)
10. M.I.A. No. 9 "Paper Planes" (XL)

TOP 10 ALBUMS
1. T.I. No. 1 "Paper Trail" (Grand Hustle/Atlantic)
2. Metallica No. 5 "Death Magnetic" (Warner Bros.)
3. Rise Against new entry "Appeal to Reason" (DGC/Interscope)
4. Jennifer Hudson No. 2 "Jennifer Hudson" (Arista)
5. Oasis new entry "Dig Out Your Soul" (Big Brother/Reprise)
6. Bob Dylan new entry "The Bootleg Series Vol. 8: Tell Tale Signs: Rare and Unreleased 1989-2006" (Columbia/Legacy)
7. Kid Rock No. 7 "Rock N Roll Jesus" (Top Dog/Atlantic)
8. Ne-Yo No. 6 "Year of the Gentleman" (Def Jam)
9. Tim McGraw new entry "Greatest Hits 3" (Curb)
10. James Taylor No. 4 "Covers" (Hear)

TOP 10 HOT COUNTRY SINGLES
1. Kenny Chesney No. 2 "Everybody Wants to Go to Heaven" (Blue Chair)
2. Toby Keith No. 3 "She Never Cried in Front of Me" (Show Dog Nashville)
3. Carrie Underwood No. 4 "Just a Dream" (19/Arista)
4. Darius Rucker No. 2 "Don't Think I Don't Think About It" (Capitol Nashville)
5. Kid Rock No. 5 "All Summer Long" (Top Dog/Atlantic)
6. Tim McGraw No. 8 "Let It Go" (Curb)
7. Taylor Swift No. 9 "Love Story" (Big Machine)
8. Brad Paisley No. 6 "Waitin' On a Woman" (Arista Nashville)
9. Sugarland No. 11 "Already Gone" (Mercury)
10. Montgomery Gentry No. 12 "Roll With Me" (Columbia)

TOP TEN MOVIES
1. Max Payne (PG-13) Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis
2. Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) animated
3. The Secret Life of Bees (PG-13) Dakota Fanning, Queen Latifah
4. W. (PG-13) Josh Brolin, Elizabeth Banks
5. Eagle Eye (PG-13) Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan
6. Body of Lies (R) Leonardo DiCaprio, Russell Crowe
7. Quarantine (R) Jennifer Carpenter, Steve Harris
8. Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG-13) Michael Cera, Kat Dennings
9. Sex Drive (R) Josh Zuckerman, Amanda Crew
10. Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13) Richard Gere, Diane Lane

TOP 10 VIDEO RENTALS
1. Iron Man (PG-13) Robert Downey Jr. (Paramount)
2. Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) Jason Segel (Universal)
3. Sex and the City: The Movie (R) Sarah Jessica Parker (Warner)
4. Leatherheads (PG-13) George Clooney (Universal)
5. Made of Honor (R) Patrick Dempsey (Sony Pictures)
6. Baby Mama (PG-13) Amy Poehler (Universal)
7. Deception (R) Hugh Jackman (Fox)
8. 88 Minutes (R) Al Pacino (Sony Pictures)
9. Speed Racer (PG) Emile Hirsch (Warner)
10. The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) Jet Li (Lionsgate)

TOP 10 DVD SALES
1. Iron Man (PG-13) (Marvel)
2. Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) (Universal)
3. Sex and the City: The Movie (R) (New Line)
4. Leatherheads (PG-13) (Universal)
5. Speed Racer (PG) (Warner)
6. Made of Honor (PG-13) (Sony Pictures)
7. Dora The Explorer: Dora Saves the Snow Princess (NR) (Nickelodeon)
8. Transformers (PG-13) (DreamWorks)
9. Baby Mama (PG-13) (Universal)
10. The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) (Lionsgate)

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Led Zeppelin: The singer may not remain the same

In this April 25, 2008 file photo, Robert Plant performs during the 2008 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival in New Orleans.

AP

LONDON (AP)—Led Zeppelin may yet reunite and tour—and they'd consider doing it without Robert Plant.

John Paul Jones, the group's founding bassist, told the BBC that he and his fellow band members would consider looking for someone to replace their lead singer.

"We want to do it. It's sounding great and we want to get and get out there," he told the British radio program in an interview broadcast Monday. "It's got to be right. There's no point in just finding another Robert."

Led Zeppelin's spokesman Chris Goodman declined to comment Wednesday on plans for a possible reunion.

Plant joined the rest of the band for a one-time concert in London's cavernous O2 arena last December. It was the group's first full set since 1980, the year the band broke up after drummer John Bonham died.

The O2 concert generated rave reviews and calls for the band to reunite.

Plant recently toured with bluegrass artist Alison Krauss. However, Plant said in a statement on his Web site that he has no intention of touring with anyone for at least the next two years.

The band's former promoter Harvey Goldsmith said the band should not tour without Plant.

"If they're going out with another singer it's not exactly Led Zeppelin," he said, "and if it is, then them doing a long tour, I'm not sure what the point is because they don't need to do it."

AC/DC's Johnson 'overwhelmed' by CD's success

NEW YORK (AP)—AC/DC made their new album, "Black Ice," available only at Wal-Mart and through their Web site, but that hasn't limited its success: The CD not only has topped the charts in more than two dozen countries, it debuts atop the latest U.S. album chart with sales of more than 780,000 copies.

"It's overwhelming, and quite hard to take in," the legendary group's lead singer, Brian Johnson, said Wednesday after learning his group had 2008's second-biggest album debut.

"Even an old dog like me has a few more surprises in life, I guess," he said, chuckling.

The group beat out "High School Musical" for the No. 1 spot. According to figures released Wednesday by Nielsen SoundScan, "Black Ice" sold some 784,000 copies in its first week of release; the teen-oriented movie soundtrack sold about 297,000 copies. (The year's biggest album debut so far belongs to Lil Wayne, with a million copies sold of "Tha Carter III.")

In making Wal-Mart the only retailer for their album, AC/DC joined the likes of the Eagles and Journey, who have all had strong success.

"It was a win-win situation, and they decided to make it into a big thing with AC/DC merchandise and good deals with the other albums with the catalog," Johnson said. "This has been a wonderful thing."

The CD has topped the charts in 29 countries since its release in the recent days.

Bono: World has a stake in upcoming US election

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—U2 frontman and activist Bono said Wednesday that next week's presidential election provides a great opportunity to "relaunch Brand USA" amid worldwide scrutiny.

"The whole world has a stake in how things turn out," the Ireland native told thousands of Starbucks Corp. employees in New Orleans for a leadership conference. The coffee company and Bono's (RED) label, which helps raise money for the Global Fund that pays for AIDS programs in Africa, also announced a partnership Wednesday.

The singer talked about brands and what they stand for. In Starbucks' case, he said some might see it as a place to hang out and get coffee—but that brand can also signify social responsibility.

The way the U.S. is perceived—"Brand USA"—also means something, he said. And it's never been so closely watched, said Bono, who didn't endorse either candidate for president.

More of Denise Richards' reality on the way

In this July 19, 2008 file photo, actress Denise Richards poses at the Much Love Animal Rescue Second Annual Bow Wow WOW! in Los Angeles.

AP

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's apparently still complicated for Denise Richards.

The E! network said Wednesday that it has ordered a second season of the model-actress' reality show, "Denise Richards: It's Complicated."

The first episode, which debuted in May, was originally watched by 1.5 million viewers while the season finale was seen by 976,000 people, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Richards was divorced from Charlie Sheen in 2006; the two were embroiled in a bitter custody battle over their two young daughters, who often appeared in the first season of the reality show.

The 37-year-old actress has also starred in such films as "Starship Troopers," "Wild Things" and "The World Is Not Enough."

Actors union opposes same-sex marriage ban

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Screen Actors Guild officially stands opposed to the California ballot initiative that would ban same-sex marriage.

After weeks of being criticized for not contributing enough to defeat Proposition 8, members of the film-TV industries have recently stepped up their contributions—financial and otherwise—to fight Proposition 8, and on Tuesday a union committee voted to oppose the measure.

"No actor should have to disclose his or her sexual preference in order to get health and retirement benefits," said SAG Chairwoman Anne-Marie Johnson. "Being legally married means everyone is treated the same. It's important that we take a stand to protect all actors from discriminatory hiring practices and provide same-sex couples access to benefits."

Bad feelings spoil whole bushel of neighbor's apples

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Two weeks ago, out of the blue, my middle-aged neighbor, "Ed," brought over a bushel of apples from his tree. He told me he didn't want them to go to waste, and he wasn't going to do anything with them. I told Ed I didn't want them, but he left them with me anyway.

Reluctantly, I spent my days off peeling, coring and cooking them into batches of apple crisp, pies and jam. I gave away all of the items to friends and family, and saved one pie to give to Ed.

When I took it over to him, he said, "Is that it? What did you do with all the rest?" When I told him I had given everything else away, Ed got upset and said he should have gotten more because they were his apples!

Abby, I am just furious. I didn't want, ask for or need those apples in the first place. I worked hard preparing them, and the last thing I expected was for my neighbor to be so ungrateful. Am I overreacting? I seriously want nothing more to do with the man.

OFFENDED IN APPLETON, WIS.

DEAR OFFENDED: Once your neighbor gave you the bushel of apples, they were yours to do with as you chose. While it would have been generous of you to have given him a sample of each of the items you created with them, you were under no obligation to do so. To hold a grudge against this presumptuous man is a waste of time, so let it go. Something tells me he won't burden you with his apples again anytime soon.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I married very young by today's standards. We met when I was 17, started dating when I was 18, became engaged at 19 and married at 20. My family supported the marriage. We completed a full year of premarital counseling and a weekend marriage course, as well. We're financially stable and very much in love.

Two years later, we're still happy as ever and know that marrying was the right choice for us.

Acquaintances and strangers often feel the need to tell us that our marriage "won't last." Some even go as far as to say, "Are you crazy? Why would you do that?" Is there a polite way to respond to these comments? We find them hurtful and insulting.

YOUNG AND IN LOVE

DEAR IN LOVE: Those comments are not only rude and insulting, they are also presumptuous, and a reflection of the speakers' biases and possible problems with making a commitment. But please do not sink to their level. Marrying late is no guarantee that the union will be successful, either. To those who say it won't last, smile and reply, "Time will tell." It's the truth.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a problem remembering people's names, even though I have been attending church with some of them for nearly 10 years. It's embarrassing when someone greets me and I can't recall his or her name. Have you any suggestions for me?

BEWILDERED IN GRAND RAPIDS

DEAR BEWILDERED: Your problem is very common. Some people have solved it by using word association when they meet people, and by repeating the name after being introduced. Example: "It's nice to meet you, (true, blue) Sue." (The true and blue are, of course, silent.) A group picture from the church newsletter with a caption underneath can also be a powerful memory-jogger if you look at it before you leave for church.

If all else fails, fall back on that old show-business standby, "DAHLING, you look MAH-velous!"

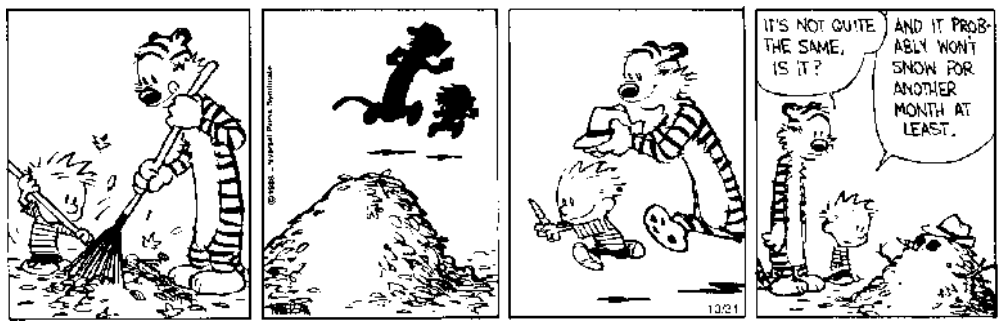
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

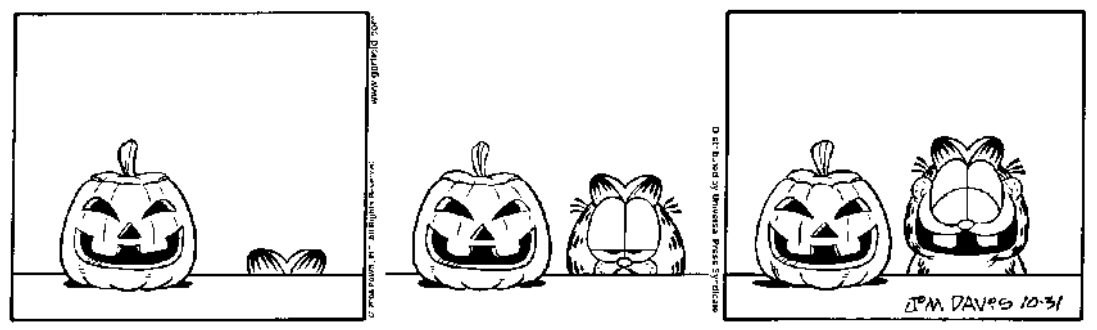
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHY DON'T YOU WEAR CONTACTS?
I THINK GLASSES MAKE ME LOOK SMARTER.
WHICH REMINDS ME...
HAVE YOU SEEN WHERE I SET MY GLASSES DOWN? I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR THEM ALL MORNING!

CROSSWORD

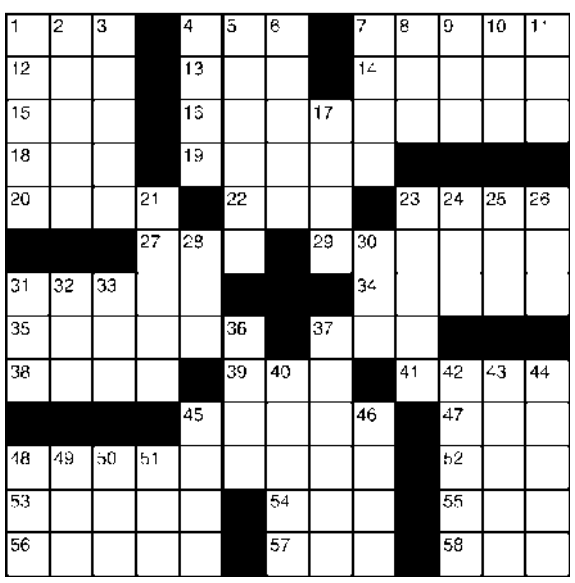
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Donkey
4 Easter entree
7 One-on-one battles
12 Have bills
13 Judge Lance
14 Swimming pool problem
15 Wardrobe malfunction
16 Deserted area
18 Stick with a kick
19 Hebrew prophet
20 Culture medium
22 Tex- —
23 TV clown
27 Shoe width
29 Partner of Stookey and Travers
31 Poetic feet
34 Libreville's country
35 Hit
37 Solemn promise
38 Disarray
39 Lemieux milieu
41 Ricki or Veronica
45 Luminaries
47 Monokini's lack
48 McCarthy-era goings-on
52 Perp. to vert.
53 Island greeting
54 Old French coin
55 Inseparable
56 Glisten
57 Conclude
58 Roulette bet

DOWN
1 Heart line?
2 Benny Goodman's style
3 Anatomica walls
4 Way up there
5 In
6 Bullwinkle, for one
7 Information
8 Last (Abbr.)
9 Swelled head
10 Legislation
11 D.C. VIP
17 Alluring
21 Picture puzzle
23 Bench-clearer
24 Sphere
25 Menagerie
26 Possess
28 Computer key at top left
30 Some time back
31 Doctrine
32 Noshed
33 "— Miniver"
36 Friends and neighbors
37 British Columbia city
40 Make happen
42 Detest
43 Money of Denmark
44 Word with "dog" or "jug"
45 Counterfeit
46 Poker variety
48 Vacillate
49 Unwell
50 Pirouette pivot
51 Half a dance?

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-31



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ or y.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Adam Horovitz, 42; Peter Jackson, 47; Dermot Mulroney, 45; Jane Pauley, 58

Happy Birthday: Stand tall and be ready to go it alone to get what you want. Let your human quality surface so everyone you deal with can see that you mean business and will stand behind your plans. A responsibility for a family member will change, allowing you the freedom to move on. Don't wallow over what has happened—get moving. Your numbers are 6, 8, 15, 24, 28, 39, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Use your Aries wit, charm and intuitive insight to see what others want and what they can do for you in return. Fast action will help you take over and succeed while hard work will ensure a bright and secure future. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Someone you least expect will be quick to respond to your questions, offers and requests. Don't be afraid to ask for a little more than you need. Taking on something a little unusual will bring about a greater demand. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotional encounters will bring about some interesting conclusions that you may not have realized in the past. Don't make decisions based on career or a position being offered if it will mean giving up a relationship vital to your well-being. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Tie up loose ends and prepare to get into a party mood. The people you meet through the activities will change your outlook and your attitude toward work, money and what life is all about. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You owe it to yourself to relax. Set up an appointment to be pampered or to get together with friends. Love is in a high cycle and emotional matters can be put to rest. A good idea should be expanded upon. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't give in to someone who is giving you an ultimatum. A close friend or relative will encourage you to do what's right and best for you. Be open to something new and expect a change of heart. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Go to new places that offer inspiration and motivation. Attend a seminar, tradeshow or an activity that will educate you in ways you can't imagine. A professional change may get you thinking about a home-based business. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Incorporate something different into your everyday routine. Boredom will stifle your creativity and cause you to lose confidence in your own talent. Pick up where you left off and it won't be long before you regain your skills and feel good about the future. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll be emotionally stressed out if you allow someone to disrupt your plans. Follow through with what you have on your agenda, even if you have to go it alone. It may be time to rid yourself of someone who is always letting you down. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You won't see things too clearly and this can lead to a falling out with someone you've relied on in the past. Expect things to change quite abruptly if you aren't prepared to give in a little. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You will discover something that you enjoy doing. Take a little time to develop a plan that will allow you to incorporate your new skill with a moneymaking venture. Don't let anyone discourage you. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): A sudden change of plans will leave you reeling. Don't give in to what someone else insists on, if it will slow you down or cause you loss. Concentrate on pushing your way to the top. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are playful, courageous, intuitive and tenacious. You love a challenge. You are a romantic and a wanderer.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	9			6				
7							1	5
	3					2		
	6				3			
		5	8		2	9		
			1				2	
		6					8	
2	4							9
				7			3	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/31

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	6	4	5	1	8	9	7	3
8	9	3	7	6	4	5	2	1
7	5	1	9	3	2	4	8	6
4	2	7	1	9	6	3	5	8
9	3	8	2	4	5	6	1	7
5	1	6	8	7	3	2	9	4
1	4	5	3	8	9	7	6	2
3	8	2	6	5	7	1	4	9
6	7	9	4	2	1	8	3	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them, and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BUG ZAPPERS Solution: 8 letters

F	R	M	D	R	A	Y	K	C	A	B	U	G	S	G
N	L	E	W	I	R	E	E	S	T	O	T	Y	N	R
T	O	E	M	U	O	C	G	I	C	N	A	A	S	O
R	T	I	C	R	I	D	U	A	E	R	H	T	N	O
A	N	R	I	I	O	C	E	M	T	I	E	A	O	D
P	F	D	N	A	R	F	R	S	N	I	S	F	F	T
M	R	E	E	I	N	O	S	E	Q	E	O	H	N	U
E	R	S	C	D	T	I	C	N	R	U	B	V	O	O
N	U	T	F	N	N	S	M	U	A	I	A	I	I	R
T	C	R	U	L	E	U	L	A	T	R	I	R	T	G
H	P	O	G	R	I	D	O	Y	T	E	T	U	A	A
G	M	Y	O	X	D	E	I	R	D	N	D	S	X	N
I	A	U	R	A	L	O	S	T	G	O	O	O	E	I
L	L	E	D	O	L	P	X	E	T	I	B	C	V	S
F	E	L	E	C	T	R	I	C	A	L	A	T	E	M

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Backyard, Bait, Bite, Body, Bugs, Circuit, Coax, Contamination, Current, Destroy, Diodes, Dried, Electrical, Electrocutec, Entice, Entrapment, Explode, Flies, Fluorescent, Gric, Grounded, Hang, Heat, Lamp, Light, Lures, Mercury, Metal, Mount, Neon, Organism, Outdoor, Screen, Solar, Torment, Transformer, Tray, Vexation, Virus, Voltage, Wire

Yesterday's Answer: Bollywood

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, -v- ANTHONY C. REYES and JOANNE P. REYES, Defendants. : CIVIL ACTION NO. 01-149

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 6, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: That certain tract or parcel of real property situated in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot No. E.A. 743-4-5-2, more particularly bounded and described as follows.

Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 46,549.732 meters north and 48,975.746 meters east on the Northern Mariana Islands Coordinate System of 1966;

Thence S 30 12' 53" W, 33.53 meters to Corner 1;
Thence N 51 30' 20" W, 33.08 meters to Corner 2;
Thence N 30 12' 53" E, 31.53 meters to Corner 3;
Thence S 51 30' 20" W, 33.08 meters to the point of beginning;

The above described property contains an area of 1,032 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. 2061/89 and recorded as Commonwealth Recorder's file No. 89-579.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, November 14, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 10th day of October, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

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Find today's solution in this section

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We are looking for people who are friendly, smiling, dependable, hard working, and a great team player to work in our customer service team as a Customer Service Representative and at the same time improving upon your own working skills.

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Application available @ Shell Gualo Rai (across from Pizza Hut), Shell San Roque, & Shell Susupe. Turn in application at any our Delta Stations.

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Are you driven to make a difference in the lives of others?

Brain Builders-Saipan, is looking for individuals interested in part time or full time work with a background in education, social work, physical therapy, speech therapy, nursing, or related fields. Job entails working with students with diagnosed learning difficulties, their schools, and families. Excellent opportunity to set your own hours, with good pay, and a rewarding career. Master's Degree preferred.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

AGENCY: Commonwealth Development Authority
POSITION: Comptroller
PAYLEVEL/STEP: Ungraded
SALARY: $50,000 - $65,000
TERM: Two Years, renewable

CLOSING DATE: **Open Until Filled**

Position Summary: The position is an excepted service position and is responsible for directing the fiscal function of the organization in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and other regulatory and advisory organizations. The employee provides the Board of Directors with an independent and expert evaluation on financial issues, the fiscal health of the Authority; and recommends changes that will improve the quality of fiscal planning and management of CDA. The incumbent shall also perform other functions as the Executive Director and the Board may require. The position is an Officer of the Authority.

Qualification Requirements: Must hold a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university in Accounting and a minimum of 5 years of professional experience in governmental or financial accounting; U.S. Certified Public Accountant is preferred but not required. Copy of degree/official transcript, police clearance, and professional certification must be attached to the application.

For more information, please contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer by e-mail at executive@cda.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 234-7145/6245.

Detailed job description with qualification requirements can be obtained at the CDA Office, Wakins Bldg., Gualo Rai or our website at www.cda.gov.mp.

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A Division of Jones & Guerrero Co., Inc.

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ACCOUNTANT
(IBSS Saipan – 1 position opening)

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be Accounting Graduate with at least **(4)** years experience in Financial Statement Preparation and Analysis of Accounts, **Proficient in MS Excel & MS Word. Good command of English both oral & written** and with valid CNMI Drivers License.

This position offers challenging and rewarding opportunities with excellent fringe benefits and salary.

Interested individuals may apply in person at the IBSS office, Beach road, Chalan Kanoa Saipan, Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. All applications must be accompanied with a current **POLICE CLEARANCE.**

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Opening Date: **October 3, 2008**
Closing Date: **October 31, 2008**

Position: **Receptionist**

Salary: **PL 18/01 – $13,052.98 to PL 18/05 ($15,870.10 P/A)**
(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)

Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, October 31, 2008, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than October 31, 2008, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Edith C. Fejeran, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to ecfejeran@nmhc.gov.mp NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Request for Proposal
RFP 09-006

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Office Space Rental for PSS Special Education (SPED) Program.** Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-006" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **November 28, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-006, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and three (3) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: ***babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.***

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or A proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Invitation For Bid
IFB # 09-002

The CNMI Public School System (PSS) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for **One (1) Year Campus Security Services for Marianas High School Campus and properties** on the island of Saipan located in the CNMI. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3 d floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB # 09-002" containing (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than November 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB # 09-002, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (1-original with 3-copies). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions must be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: ***babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.*** Technical questions, in order to ensure consideration, shall be submitted no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the deadline for submission of bids.

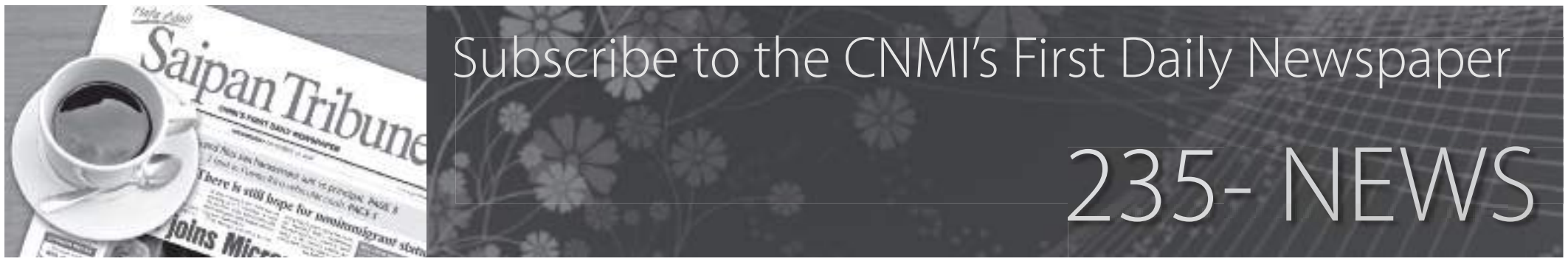
General inquiries may be directed to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office at telephone number 237-3062.

The Public School System reserves the night to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer



Knicks win D'Antoni's debut while Thunder struggle

NEW YORK (AP)—Mike D'Antoni had a successful debut as the New York Knicks coach, while the Thunder had one to forget in Oklahoma City.

Jamal Crawford scored 29 points, Zach Randolph added 20, and the Knicks beat the Miami Heat 120-115 on Wednesday night in their first game under D'Antoni.

Wilson Chandler had 17 points and nine rebounds, and David Lee and Quentin Richardson each scored 16 points for New York. Relying just as much on solid defense as D'Antoni's uptempo offense, the Knicks seized control late in the second quarter, opened a 23-point lead in the third, then held on after the Heat got within three points in the final minute.

"I just liked the overall play," D'Antoni said. "Those last five minutes ... we kind of shut it down. We can't do that. We're not that good to be able to do that."

The Thunder had huge pregame festivities, but once the ball was tipped off the celebration quickly ended.

The Bucks were in control from the start, taking their first double-digit lead by the midway point of the first quarter, and they gave the 19,136 in attendance little to cheer about until it was too late, holding on for a 98-87 victory.

"The excitement of opening night, I thought, caused our slow start offensively," Thunder coach P.J. Carlesimo said. "We didn't play like we were capable of playing and that is a shame."

In other NBA games, it was New Jersey 95, Washington 85; Atlanta 99, Orlando 85; Toronto 95, Philadelphia 84; Minnesota 98, Sacramento 96; Phoenix 103, San Antonio 98; Detroit 100, Indiana 94; Houston 82, Memphis 71; Utah 98, Denver 84; Los Angeles Lakers 117, Los Angeles Clippers 79; and New Orleans 108, Golden State 103.

AP

New York Knicks head coach Mike D'Antoni gives his team directions from the sidelines during the fourth quarter of NBA basketball action against the Miami Heat, Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008 at Madison Square Garden in New York.

At Oklahoma City, Michael Redd, Richard Jefferson and Charlie Villanueva each scored 20 points and the Bucks spoiled the Thunder's debut.

Playing their opener after moving from Seattle in the offseason, the Thunder made it interesting by cutting a 24-point deficit to 11 in the fourth quarter.

The late rally gave a sellout crowd of 19,136 something to cheer about after a miserable start by the Thunder.

Chris Wilcox led Oklahoma City with 15 points off the bench, first-round pick Russell Westbrook scored 13 in his debut and Kevin Durant finished with 12 on 5-for-14 shooting.

"The atmosphere was definitely great," Wilcox said. "We had a lot of fans here, fan support, and I think if we get that night in and night out, a lot of games that we struggle, down the stretch we will come out with."

Nets 95, Wizards 85

At Washington, Vince Carter scored 21 points to lead his rebuilding Nets to a season-opening victory over a Wizards team missing Gilbert Arenas.

Carter made a 16-foot fadeaway jumper over Caron Butler to put the visitors ahead 90-82 with a minute left and effectively settle a back-and-forth game.

Carter had plenty of help, with 17 points from Yi Jianlian and 14 from Jarvis Hayes.

Six Wizards scored in double-figures, led by Jamison and DeShawn Stevenson with 14 apiece.

Hawks 99, Magic 85

At Orlando, Fla., Joe Johnson scored 25 points, including nine in the fourth quarter, to help the Hawks hold off a late Magic rally.

Dwight Howard had 22 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Magic, who lost their home opener for only the second time in the last nine seasons. Mickael Pietrus added 20 points.

Josh Smith chipped in 17 for the Hawks, who held the Magic to 37 percent shooting.

Raptors 95, 76ers 84

At Philadelphia, Chris Bosh had 27 points and 11 rebounds to help the Raptors beat the 76ers. Jermaine O'Neal added 17 and Jason Kapono had 15.

Lou Williams scored 16 points, Andre Iguodala added 15, Elton Brand had 14 points and 13 rebounds in his Sixers debut, and Samuel Dalembert pulled down 17 rebounds.

Timberwolves 98, Kings 96

At Minneapolis, Rookie Kevin Love made an impressive debut with 12 points and nine rebounds, and Al Jefferson had 21 points and 10 rebounds to help the Timberwolves to a victory over the rebuilding Kings.

John Salmons scored 21 of his 24 points in the second half and rookie Jason Thompson had 18 points and 10 boards for the Kings. Spencer Hawes had 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Suns 103, Spurs 98

At San Antonio, Amare Stoudemire scored 22 points and four other Phoenix players scored in double figures to help give Terry Porter a victory in his coaching debut.

Tim Duncan and Tony Parker each scored 32 points for the Spurs, who were playing without guard Manu Ginobili, out until December after ankle surgery.

Pistons 100, Pacers 94

At Auburn Hills, Mich., Tayshaun Prince scored 19 points as part of a balanced attack to give new Pistons coach Michael Curry a win over the Pacers in the opener for both teams.

Danny Granger led the new-look Pacers with 33 points and got some help from new teammates T.J. Ford, Jarrett Jack and Rasho Nesterovic.

Chauncey Billups had 13 points and seven assists, Richard Hamilton scored 15 and Rasheed Wallace added nine points and seven rebounds for the Pistons. Walter Hermann had 10 points, helping the Pistons' bench outscore Indiana's reserves 38-18.

Rockets 82, Grizzlies 71

At Houston, Yao Ming had 21 points and 10 rebounds, Ron Artest added 16 points in his debut and the Rockets overcame poor shooting to beat the Grizzlies.

Luis Scola had 12 points and 13 rebounds for the Rockets, who were 28-for-76 (36.8 percent) from the field. They also went 5-for-16 from 3-point range and were outrebounded 49-44.

Rudy Gay scored 20 and rookie Darrell Arthur had 11 points and 15 rebounds for the Grizzlies, who've lost all eight season openers since moving to Memphis in 2001.

Jazz 98, Nuggets 94

At Salt Lake City, Carlos Boozer had 25 points and 14 rebounds, Andrei Kirilenko added 16 points in his new reserve role and the Jazz opened the season with a win.

Mehmet Okur had 13 points and 10 rebounds and Ronnie Price finished with five assists starting in place of Deron Williams, who is out with a sprained ankle.

Allen Iverson had 18 points and eight assists to lead the Nuggets, who were missing star Carmelo Anthony while he served the first of a two-game suspension from a DUI arrest.

Lakers 117, Clippers 79

At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant had 16 points and eight rebounds, Andrew Bynum added 12 points and nine rebounds, and the Lakers spoiled the Clippers season opener.

The Lakers began their season with a similar blowout a night earlier, breezing to a 96-76 win at home against Portland.

Baron Davis had 11 points on 4-of-13 shooting in his Clippers' debut, with seven assists. Al Thornton scored 16, and Cuttino Mobley and Tim Thomas each had 11.

Hornets 108, Warriors 103

At Oakland, Calif., Chris Paul drove for the go-ahead layup with 19.4 seconds left and finished with 21 points and 11 assists for the Hornets.

After going 7-0 in the NBA's first unbeaten preseason in six years, New Orleans stayed perfect despite falling apart down the stretch. After Paul's jumper gave the Hornets a six-point lead with 5:47 left, they went nearly four minutes between points while the Warriors went ahead 101-100 on a jumper by Corey Maggette, who had 27 points in his Golden State debut.

Blazers' Oden out 2-to-4 weeks with foot sprain

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—After missing all of last season because of knee surgery, Portland Trail Blazers center Greg Oden injured his foot in his first regular-season NBA game and will be sidelined two to four weeks.

The team said Wednesday that MRI and computerized axial tomography scans confirmed Oden has a midlateral foot sprain.

Oden was injured in the first quarter of the Blazers' 96-76 season-opening loss to the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

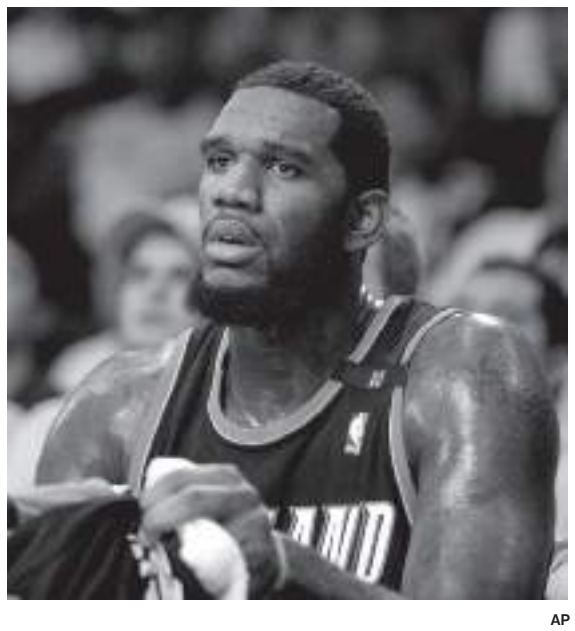
"I was trying to go get a rebound, and kind of came down on Derek Fisher's foot on like the third play of the game. I kind of fell and didn't think twice about it," he said after the game.

Oden missed four field goals and two free throws in 13 minutes of play. So he is still searching for his first NBA point.

The 7-foot center was the top pick in the 2007 draft, but before his rookie season started, it was postponed by microfracture surgery on his right knee.

Trail Blazers coach Nate McMillan had not yet heard of the MRI results when he addressed reporters Wednesday at the team's practice facility in Tualatin, Ore.

"You don't want injuries, and he's worked so hard throughout this summer to get himself back," McMillan said. "And we tried to do everything we could to get him ready for the season and the opener, and he steps on a guy's foot."



AP

Portland Trail Blazers center Greg Oden sits on the bench after committing his second foul of the basketball game and injuring his right leg against Los Angeles Lakers during the first half at the Staples Center in Los Angeles Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008.

Blazers guard Brandon Roy, who also spoke before the tests were complete, said the team will prepare to move forward without Oden for Friday night's home opener against San Antonio.

"I feel bad for him," Roy said. "I know this is a big year for him and he had a lot on his shoulders."

The Trail Blazers also said in a release that Oden's MRI revealed a couple of avulsions, or fractures, that "are not believed serious and do not require surgery."

Oden could not immediately be reached for comment.

His first game was highly anticipated by Blazers fans, who had to wait to see the top draft pick. The team had not had a No. 1 pick since 1978, when it chose center Mychal Thompson of Minnesota.

After he was held out last season, Oden rolled his ankle in the first practice of the fall. That injury wasn't serious, however, and he played during the preseason, averaging 11.5 points, 7.8 rebounds and 23.7 minutes in six games.

Joel Przybilla will start for the Blazers at center against San Antonio.

Oden's injury in the second to befall the Blazers' starting lineup this season. Small forward Martell Webster had surgery to repair a stress fracture in his left foot in the preseason.

Oden was expected to miss between six and 14 games.

In one season at Ohio State, Oden averaged 15.7 points and 9.6 rebounds, but he struggled with a wrist injury. He led the Buckeyes to the national championship game, scoring 25 points and grabbing 12 rebounds in the loss to Florida.

Police: Golfer John Daly drunk, detained

WINSTON-SALEM N.C. (AP)—Golfer John Daly was taken into custody Sunday morning by Winston-Salem police after he was found drunk outside an area Hooters restaurant.

Police said in a statement Wednesday that said officers went to the restaurant on a medical call. When they arrived, Daly was being treated by emergency workers after losing consciousness.

While at the restaurant, police said Daly "appeared extremely intoxicated and uncooperative," refused repeatedly to be taken to the hospital and was asked to leave the restaurant by several workers.

Daly was taken to the Forsyth County Law Enforcement Detention Center for a 24-hour stay, until he was sober.

Rodgers' shoulder feeling better after bye

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Getting a week's worth of rest certainly helped Aaron Rodgers, but the bye week wasn't a miracle cure for his sprained right shoulder.

Rodgers threw a few deep balls in the portion of Green Bay Packers practice that was open to the media Wednesday, something he hasn't done very much since spraining his shoulder a month ago. Afterward, Rodgers said the injury felt "a little better"—but didn't proclaim it fully healed.

"It was great timing, it was," Rodgers said of last week's bye. "Not just for myself, but I think we're going to get some other guys back this week. So it was a good break. Not long enough, though."

Packers coach Mike McCarthy said Rodgers was on a "pitch count" to limit his throws Wednesday, and would likely practice under the same limitations Thursday. McCarthy said Rodgers took most of the snaps when the Packers were practicing running plays but wouldn't say specifically how many passes he threw.

Still, McCarthy said the bye week definitely helped Rodgers.

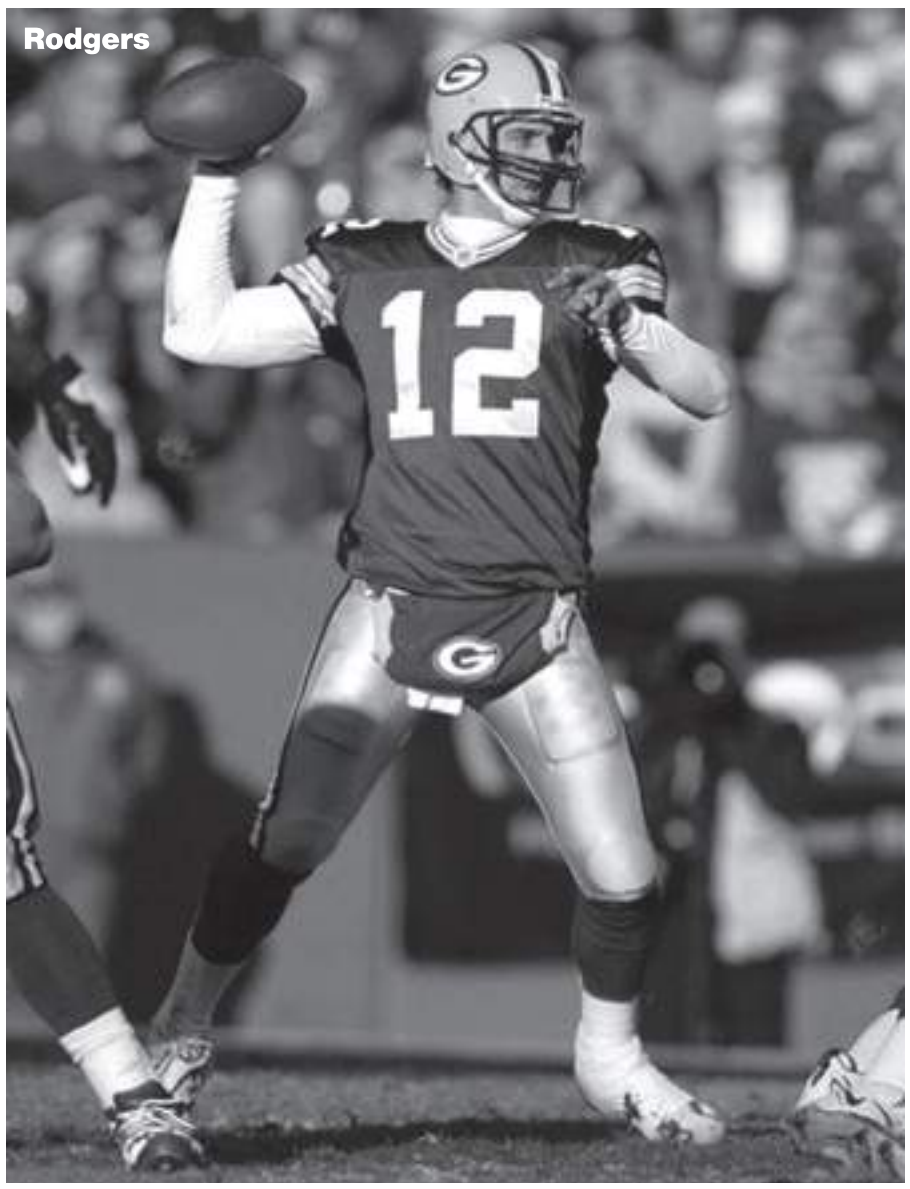
"I think he's at the point where the strength's not an issue, everything from a structure standpoint's not an issue," McCarthy said. "It just needs rest, that's what (team doctor Pat) McKenzie keeps telling us. So as much rest as we can give him, the better, just so it doesn't flare up on him."

McCarthy said Rodgers could sit out Friday's practice, depending on how his shoulder looks to doctors that morning.

Rodgers, a bystander in practice for most of the past month, said he's happy to be back. But he's looking forward to the day when he doesn't have to worry about things like pitch counts and rehabilitation exercises.

"It is progress," Rodgers said. "It just shows it's feeling better. Hopefully, we can do away with that at some point this season and have no restrictions."

Rodgers didn't want to speculate whether the injury would nag him for the foreseeable future.


Rodgers

"I'm going to play this week, and that's all I'm saying about that," Rodgers said. "I'm feeling better."

Rodgers has played three straight games since hurting his shoulder in the Packers' Sept. 28 loss at Tampa Bay—and played well despite limited practice time during the week and obvious pain during games.

For the season, Rodgers has a completion percentage of 65.6 with 12 touchdowns and only four interceptions. He'll need to continue avoiding mistakes going into the Packers' biggest test yet this season, a game at 7-0 Tennessee on Sunday.

Titans veteran quarterback Kerry Collins is impressed with the way Rodgers has handled his first season as a starter, beginning with the Brett Favre unretirement controversy in training camp.

"He looks like he's throwing the ball great, really making good decisions and putting the ball in good, tight places," Collins said. "He's really throwing very accurately, I think. I thought he handled everything that went on this summer and the whole year, I thought he handled it great. Just from an outsider's standpoint, I don't think he could've handled it any better. And obviously he's playing really well. He's making a lot of throws, he's making good decisions, and it looks like he's really playing at a high level."

After watching the Titans beat Indianapolis on Monday night, Rodgers knows he'll have to be careful against a fierce defense.

"They're a team that thrives on turnovers," Rodgers said. "Watching the game Monday, they forced some turnovers and turned them into points. That's the key for us - as it always is, no matter who we're playing—we've got to limit our turnovers. Personally, I've got to make a good decision with the ball. And hopefully, we'll be able to run the ball, which will put us into manageable third downs."

Rodgers has been particularly good in third-down situations this season, carrying a league-best 120.3 quarterback rating and throwing nine of his 12 touchdowns on third down.

"It's an emphasis for us," Rodgers said. "It's a combination of a good scheme, good plan, good mind-set, being smart with the ball and the number of playmakers we've got on offense. I'm just trying to get them the ball, and they've been making some good plays on third down."

Rodgers' first season as a starter has been a success so far—and apparently, it runs in the family.

Rodgers went home to California over the weekend, where he watched his brother, Jordan, play quarterback for Butte College—the same junior college Rodgers played for before he transferred to California.

Did he offer up any tips?

"He doesn't need any," Rodgers said.

Colts could get Sanders back for Pats game

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Injured Indianapolis Colts safety Bob Sanders, running back Joseph Addai and cornerback Kelvin Hayden all practiced Wednesday. They could be healthy enough to play Sunday against archrival New England.

"I expect that they will all be out there (Wednesday), and if all goes well, I expect them to play Sunday," coach Tony Dungy said before practice.

None of the three was listed on the team's practice report, meaning the three players participated in all drills.

The Colts held out of practice two other starters—Pro Bowl receiver Reggie Wayne and cornerback Marlin Jackson—with knee injuries. Wayne was hurt late in Monday night's loss at Tennessee when another player rolled into his leg, but both players finished the game.

The Colts do not provide injury updates after practice.

Dungy said he wanted to see how Sanders, Addai and Hayden each responds when they return to the team complex Thursday morning, and even then the Colts may limit their playing time.

Sanders, the 2007 Defensive Player of the Year, is the emotional leader. He's missed the last five games with a high ankle sprain, an injury that typically takes four to six weeks to heal. He also had arthroscopic knee surgery during his absence. Indianapolis has not said which knee Sanders had repaired, but Dungy has explained the knee injury did not delay Sanders' return.

Sanders

Second-year safety Melvin Bullitt has played well enough in Sanders' absence that the Colts (3-4) are now trying to make him a regular part of the defense.

"I don't know that Bob will be able to play 60 plays right out of the box," Dungy said. "But we've got to find ways to get Melvin in the game."

Sanders has a long history of injuries. He played in a career-high 15 games last season and has been the subject of a strange even-year hex. He missed a combined total of 22 games in 2004 and 2006, compared with a total of three games in 2005 and 2007.

Addai, who made his first Pro Bowl last season, went down with a hamstring injury early in the Baltimore game Oct. 12. There was speculation Addai tore the hamstring and could miss up to a month, something Dungy denied.

Now, three weeks later, Addai could be back in the lineup. He was replaced by former 1,000-yard runner Dominic Rhodes, who has helped invigorate a previously stagnant ground game. Rhodes sat out Wednesday's practice with an ankle injury.

Hayden missed the last three games after tearing the meniscus in his left knee and said Wednesday he felt good enough to play this week.

"I'll practice today and see how it feels," he said. "It should be a good test. I don't think I'm 100 percent, but I think I'm close enough to 100 percent to play."

NFL BRIEFS

Ex-Raiders coach Kiffin files grievance

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP)—Former Oakland Raiders coach Lane Kiffin filed a grievance with the NFL on Wednesday to claim the lost salary he maintains he is still owed by the team. Kiffin was fired late last month for cause because of what owner Al Davis described as acts of insubordination and lying by his second-year coach. Kiffin was still owed about $2.6 million from the three-year contract that he signed in January 2007. But Davis has refused to pay, leading to the grievance. Commissioner Roger Goodell will ultimately rule on the grievance, but there was no date for a hearing scheduled. Raiders executive John Herrera issued a statement to The Associated Press refuting Kiffin's claims, saying "Mr. Kiffin was terminated for cause. The grievance is without merit." The statement says that Kiffin's grievance "completely ignores the fact that Mr. Kiffin repeatedly made reckless statements that attacked players, assistant coaches and the owner of the team and were damaging to the Raiders organization." The statement also alleges that Kiffin made false statements to the media that damaged the Raiders.

Lions work out quarterback Daunte Culpepper

ALLEN PARK, Mich. (AP)—The Detroit Lions worked out quarterback Daunte Culpepper and liked how he looked. "He moved around good," Lions coach Rod Marinelli said Wednesday. "Good feet and all those things. "We looked at him and visited with him and we'll see how things work out." An e-mail seeking comment was sent to Culpepper, who acts as his own agent. He was a three-time Pro Bowler for the Minnesota Vikings, but a knee injury led to him being a lackluster player for the Miami Dolphins and Oakland Raiders. The Lions worked out Culpepper and some free agent safeties at their practice facility on Tuesday, just as they did the previous week with quarterback Tim Rattay. "We're open to all those guys," Marinelli said when asked if the team is still talking to Culpepper. Chiefs coach Herm Edwards said Monday that Culpepper would not even come to Kansas City for an interview.

QB Hasselbeck out, Wallace to start for Seahawks

RENTON, Wash. (AP)—Seattle quarterback Matt Hasselbeck raised his right arm and completed his throwing motion. The Seahawks only wish he'd done it on the practice field. Hasselbeck will miss his fourth consecutive game because his hyperextended right knee is still weak, yet coach Mike Holmgren said he sees "light at the end of the tunnel." Holmgren announced Wednesday that backup Seneca Wallace will make his third consecutive start on Sunday when Seattle (2-5) hosts Philadelphia (4-3). "We don't know how long he's going to have (to play)," Holmgren said. "He's our quarterback right now." This week, Dr. Robert Watkins, a noted back surgeon in Los Angeles, said a bulging disk in Hasselbeck's back is still affecting a nerve and weakening his knee. The three-time Pro Bowler will have to make at least a third trip to Watkins for more tests before he can return. Hasselbeck was glad to find out Monday that he doesn't need surgery. Now that he's 33— his birthday was last month—questions loom on whether the injury is chronic and if he'll play again this season.

PHILLIES

From Page 44

ter rain made the field into a quagmire, washing out the foul lines, creating a puddle at home plate and turning every ball an adventure. Commissioner Bud Selig eventually called it—fans booed loudly when he presented the MVP trophy to Hamels.

For Philly, it was more than a World Series win. Got the whole city off the hook, actually.

Finally, long after Julius Erving led the Sixers to the 1983 NBA title, something to celebrate.

How much did Philly fans want a champion to call their own?

Well, the sports hero they point to with the most pride isn't even a real person—Rocky Balboa.

Yo, Adrian ... the Phillies did it!

"It's over," shortstop Jimmy Rollins said. "It's over, man."

Lidge went 48-for-48 on save chances this year, including two this week. He retired two batters with a runner on second, striking out pinch-hitter Eric Hinske to end it.

Lidge jumped in front of the mound, landing on his knees with arms outstretched. Catcher Carlos Ruiz ran out to grab him, and teammates sprinted to the mound to join them as towel-waving fans let loose.

"At first, I couldn't believe it. And then the gravity of what happened hit me," Lidge said.

A generation ago, it was Tug McGraw who went wild when the Phillies won their first title. A few days after country singer Tim McGraw scattered his dad's ashes on the mound, it was Lidge's turn to throw the final pitch.

Popular broadcaster Harry Kalas, in his fourth decade of doing Phillies games, serenaded the festive fans with a chorus of "High Hopes."

Despite low TV ratings and minus the majors' most glamorous teams, fans will always remember how this one wrapped up. And for the first time in a long while, kids saw a World Series champion crowned before bedtime.

"I believe this firmly, our guys are not going to be satisfied without playing in October from now on," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "And that's a good thing. And that's all because of this group of people this year."

Reliever J.C. Romero got the win, his second of the Series.

Hamels went 4-0 in five postseason starts, beating the Rays in Game 1 and pitching six sharp innings in the rain during Game 5. He was set to be the first batter when the game resumed, and was immediately pulled for a pinch-hitter.

While former NL MVPs Ryan Howard and Rollins drive the Phillies, it was their less-heralded teammates who helped win it on this chilly night.

Tied at 3, Pat Burrell led off the seventh with a drive off the center-field wall against J.P. Howell. Chad Bradford relieved and one out later Feliz singled home pinch-runner Eric Bruntlett.

Rocco Baldelli's solo home run off Ryan Madson made it 3-all in the top of the seventh. The Rays almost got more, but All-Star second baseman Chase Utley alertly bluffed a throw to first on a grounder over the bag and instead threw out Jason Bartlett at the plate.

Pinch-hitter Geoff Jenkins, the first batter Wednesday night, doubled and later scored on Jayson Werth's bloop single.

In all, there were six new pitchers, three pinch-hitters and two pinch-runners when play restarted.

Manuel, whose NL East champions clinched a playoff spot in the final week, guided the Phillies' second overall championship in six World Series tries. The Phils helped themselves by going 7-0 at home this postseason, beating Milwaukee and the Dodgers in the NL playoffs and then defeating the Rays.

"I always thought we'd win the World Series. I knew we could beat anyone in the league," Manuel said.

Once known as a city of champions, Philadelphia saw its sports teams fall on hard times after Erving and Moses Malone led the Sixers to that 1983 title.

Since then, the Phillies, Eagles, Sixers and Flyers made it to the championship game or round—seven times, in total—and lost all of them.

The city became so starved for a crown that it was ready to throw a parade down Broad Street for a horse. But local colt Smarty Jones lost, too, in his bid for the Triple Crown.

Now, all those people can gather for the celebration Friday—it's Halloween, and fans can dress up as champions for Halloween.

"People enjoy being associated with winning and a world championship is the ultimate," Mike Schmidt, MVP of the Phillies' other championship, wrote in an e-mail to The Associated Press this week. "It unites a town behind one team."

Tampa Bay did itself proud, too, until this final week. Baseball's best success story this season, the worst-to-first Rays played like the downtrodden Devil Rays from the past decade.

Even so, the gap between the Phils and Rays wasn't enormous. Had Evan Longoria's late, long drive off Moyer in Game 3 not been blown back by the wind, the teams might still be playing.

HAMELS

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in the opener, then tossed six effective innings Monday night before Game 5 was suspended by rain in the middle of the sixth with the score tied 2-all.

"That was the worst weather I've pitched in in my entire life," Hamels said. "I feel like I succeeded even with all the hard conditions that were thrown my way."

The storm ended Hamels' outing after 75 pitches, but he nearly wound up with a win anyway. When the game resumed Wednesday night, Philadelphia went ahead in the bottom of the sixth on Jayson Werth's bloop single.

That put Hamels in position for a record-breaking victory—on a night when he never took the mound. But the Rays tied it at 3 in the seventh against Philadelphia's bullpen, leaving the 24-year-old with a no-decision.

No matter. The Phillies pulled it out and Hamels was selected MVP, just as he was in the NLCS against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"This is something that you have to live for," Hamels said. "Going out there, I knew I had a job to do. I had the support of these fans, I had my teammates behind me and all I had to really do was just go throw a baseball as well I knew how."

Along with the MVP trophy, Hamels took home a new sports car that he planned to give to his wife, who celebrated her 30th birthday Wednesday.

"Definitely going to have to enjoy this moment because there's a lot of times you don't have everything go your way," Hamels said. "To come away with a World Series ring is more important to me than an MVP."

Hamels became the fifth player to win LCS and World Series MVPs in one postseason. The others were Florida pitcher Livan Hernandez (1997), Dodgers ace Orel Hershiser (1988), St. Louis catcher Darrell Porter (1982) and Hall of Fame slugger Willie Stargell (1979) of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Hamels was a dependable and durable No. 1 starter for the Phillies all season, his third in the major leagues. Philadelphia chose him 17th overall in the 2002 amateur draft - two spots after Kazmir was picked by the New York Mets.

Going 14-10 with a 3.09 ERA in 33 starts, Hamels threw a career-high 227 1-3 innings during the regular season. That was 44 innings more than his previous high set last year.

But he hardly looked tired in October. He only got better.

Hamels finished 1-0 with a 2.77 ERA in two World Series starts—almost perfect.

"This is a great situation. I'm even more excited for that guy who's holding the MVP," said 45-year-old teammate Jamie Moyer. "He deserves it. He's the ace."

No pitcher has won five starts in one postseason, though Hamels came close. Francisco Rodriguez won five times out of the bullpen for the 2002 Anaheim Angels, and Randy Johnson had five wins for the 2001 Arizona Diamondbacks—but one came in relief against the New York Yankees in Game 7 of the World Series.

MANUEL

From Page 44

That turned the game, and the title.

"I wasn't working on trying to prove nothing," Manuel said. "Don't take this in a cocky way, I already knew how good I was."

When the game resumed in the bottom of the sixth following a 46-hour suspension, the score was 2-2. In a quick flurry of moves, six relievers, three pinch-hitters and two pinch-runners entered. A pitcher sacrificed for the first time in his career. A reigning MVP sacrificed in the World Series for the first time since Stan Musial in 1944.

"We score, they score, we score," Phillies general manager Pat Gillick said. "Then they got the tying run on second base. It was three spectacular innings."

Maddon made all of his moves

"When you get to those moments, you just try to make your best guess and try to do the right thing," he said. "And they beat us. They flat beat us tonight."

Philadelphia had been 8-for-55 (.145) with runners in scoring position. The Phillies were 2-for-5 Wednesday night.

Tampa Bay played the infield in twice, and both times the Phillies got RBI singles.

"We executed two bunts, and we got our runners over, and we made contact, and got them in," Manuel said. "Earlier in the series, we were striking out and we weren't getting them in, popping up, and hitting soft ground balls."

Right from the start, Maddon opened himself up to criticism.

When left-handed-hitting Geoff Jenkins batted for Cole Hamels to resume the game, the Rays left in right-hander Grant Balfour, who had been their last pitcher when play was halted Monday night. Maddon wanted to save his lefties to face Chase Utley and Ryan Howard in later innings.

"I was fine with him pitching against any left-hander right there," Maddon said. "We were just trying to shorten it up because you don't know if it's going to go 9, 10, 11, 12 innings, or whatever."

Jenkins doubled on a hop off the scoreboard in right-center.

"Two-strike ball off the wall. That's very unusual," Maddon said. "That happens once in a while, and he got it done, and that was unfortunate."

Manuel called for a bunt, and NL MVP Jimmy Rollins sacrificed Jenkins to third. It was his fourth sac bunt in three years. No MVP had bunted in the Series since the Cardinals' Musial in the 1944 opener against the Browns, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Maddon brought the infield in, and Jayson Werth followed with a pop to center field that bounced off the outstretched arms of second baseman Akinori Iwamura, who was trying for what would have been an outstanding catch with his back to the plate. Jenkins, who had not tagged up, scored on the single.

Lefty J.P. Howell, who had warmed up alongside Balfour, then relieved, struck out Utley and retired Howard on a popup. But Rocco Baldelli homered off Ryan Madson in the seventh, Jason Bartlett singled and Howell sacrificed - the first of his career.

Manuel called on left-hander J.C. Romero, who induced the left-handed-hitting Iwamura to hit a grounder up the middle that was picked up by Utley, who faked a throw to first, and then threw to catcher Carlos Ruiz, who tagged Bartlett on the helmet.

Pat Burrell, 0-for-13 in the Series, then doubled off Howell leading off the seventh, a drive that missed being a home run by about three feet.

Eric Bruntlett pinch ran, and side-arming right-hander Chad Bradford came in. Like clockwork, Shane Victorino hit a grounder to the right side that advanced the runner. Then, with the infield in, Pedro Feliz singled up the middle for a 4-3 lead.

"He's a down hitter, and the guy on the mound is a sinkerball pitcher, and I feel like he can make contact," Maddon said. "He doesn't strike out a whole lot."

Maddon was happy with the matchup.

"That was a good piece of hitting up the middle," he said.

Strangely, both managers were smiling after the game. Maddon basked in the accomplishments of his team, which had never finished above .500 before this year. Manuel was beaming. His team was the champion and it was especially sweet given the criticism he faced in Cleveland when he managed the Indians and in Philadelphia.

In the interview room, Manuel spotted Paul Hoynes, who covered him for The Plain Dealer.

"Hoynesie, I'll ask you something," Manuel said as a national TV audience listened in. "Why don't you go back to Cleveland and tell them that we won a World Series. All right? OK?"

LEE

From Page 43

mage at the Hyatt tennis courts.

"Surprisingly, I did not have a hard time playing in Guam despite a long layoff. Though the weather was really hot and I played two games around 1pm, I was able to survive and win," added Lee, who thanked Jerry Tan for supporting her trip to Guam.

After her tournament in New Zealand, Lee spent the rest of the month having scrimmages at Hyatt.

"I played with different types of players to keep my form. But still, it's different when you are regularly participating in tournaments. Hopefully I will have two more before the year ends," the 16-year-old netter said.

Lee said she is hoping to play in a Junior ITF-sanctioned event either in the Philippines or Indonesia next month. She added she is also looking forward to play in Japan in December.

With these two tournaments, Lee is hoping to get back to the ITF Junior Rankings.

"I used to rank in the 900s in the ITF Junior Rankings in 2006, but when I stopped playing in 2007, I lost my ranking," the Grace Christian Academy 11th grader said.

"Hopefully I get to earn points from these tournaments and get back to the Junior ITF rankings," Lee said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	1	0	1.000	_
New Jersey	1	0	1.000	_
New York	1	0	1.000	_
Toronto	1	0	1.000	_
Philadelphia	0	1	.000	1

Southeast Division

Atlanta	1	0	1.000	_
Charlotte	0	0	.000	1/2
Miami	0	1	.000	1
Orlando	0	1	.000	1
Washington	0	1	.000	1

Central Division

Chicago	0	1.000	_	
Detroit	1	0	1.000	_
Milwaukee	1	1	.500	1/2
Cleveland	0	1	.000	1
Indiana	0	1	.000	1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	1	0	1.000	_
New Orleans	1	0	1.000	_
Dallas	0	0	.000	1/2
Memphis	0	1	.000	1
San Antonio	0	1	.000	1

Northwest Division

Minnesota	1	0	1.000	_
Utah	1	0	1.000	_
Denver	0	1	.000	1
Oklahoma City	0	1	.000	1
Portland	0	1	.000	1

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	2	0	1.000	_
Phoenix	1	0	1.000	1/2
Golden State	0	1	.000	1 1/2
L.A. Clippers	0	1	.000	1 1/2
Sacramento	0	1	.000	1 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Toronto 95, Philadelphia 84
Atlanta 99, Orlando 85
New Jersey 95, Washington 85
New York 120, Miami 115
Phoenix 103, San Antonio 98
Milwaukee 98, Oklahoma City 87
Detroit 100, Indiana 94
Minnesota 98, Sacramento 96
Houston 82, Memphis 71
Utah 98, Denver 94
L.A. Lakers 117, L.A. Clippers 79
New Orleans 108, Golden State 103

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rays slip past Ayuyus in MISO caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The early rematch between Saipan Southern High School and Kagman High School had the Rays reasserting their might over the Ayuyus as they pulled off a 62-59 victory in the junior varsity division of the 2008 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization High School Basketball League Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Rays and the Ayuyus squared off for the championship last season with Southern taking the title via a 115-102 win over Kagman.

In their first meeting since last year's finals, Kagman and Southern engaged in the closely fought battle with neither team able to break the game wide open.

Both teams had a sluggish start with Southern scoring only eight in the first period and Kagman drilling nine. Both teams had only three players making it into the scoreboard.

In the second quarter, two more Rays players contributed on the team's offense.

Melvian Cadiang, Joseph Sablan, and Nicko Salem added two points apiece to support Tristan Ecalnea, who fired six to put Southern in the lead at halftime, 22-20.

The Ayuyus lost the lead despite getting 10 first-half points from Jester Kaipat, as they had only Francisco Mettao and Juan Maratita helping Kaipat run Kagman's offense.

Southern kept to the driver's seat at the end of the third period, 40-39, despite scoring 18 markers against Kagman's 19.

In the third period, the Rays and the Ayuyus began finding their mark with Adrian Palacios nailing seven markers and Cadiang and Ecalnea chipping in four apiece for Southern.

Kagman had four players making four points apiece to keep the Ayuyus in contention, entering the final canto.

The crucial fourth period was a seesaw battle, but Palacios and Ecalnea connected on important baskets to preserve the win for the Rays. Ecalnea scored eight points in the fourth quarter, while Palacios added six.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Southern's Tristan Ecalnea is fouled by a Kagman High School defender during their game in the MISO caging Wednesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Maratita and Dominic Reyes fired six markers apiece for the Ayuyus, who missed all their free throws in the fourth period. Had Kagman made four of their five charities, the Ayuyus could have won the game.

The Rays had seven trips from the 15-foot line in the fourth quarter and made four charities. Overall, Southern did a decent job from the free throw area going 14-for-22. Kagman was awarded 17 free throws and hit only three.

Ecalnea paced Southern with 18 points and was impressive from the free throw area with his 9-for-10 shooting. Palacios and Cadiang had 17 and 14 markers, apiece.

Wednesday's game was Southern's first this season, while Kagman played in its second match and dropped to a 0-2 record.

The Ayuyus debuted against the MHS Dolphins last week with the latter escaping with a similar 62-59 victory at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

SSHS 62 – Ecalnea 18, A. Palacios 17, Cadiang 14, Villanueva 7, Salem 4, Sablan 2, Wesley 1.

KHS 59 – Kaipat 14, Reyes 13, Maratita 12, Mettao 8, Ogo 6, Babauta 4, Chargualaf 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-9, 22-20, 40-39, 62-59.

NMBF Team Tournament set next month

The Northern Marianas Badminton Federation will hold its culminating badminton tournament in November for its over 100 members in the CNMI.

Dubbed the NMBF Team Tournament, the competition is open only to members with badminton skills grade from A to D. It will consist of at least eight teams with at least 10 members each. The teams will have corresponding sponsors, which will be determined based on availability of sponsorships.

The NMBF Team Tournament is tentatively scheduled to run from Nov. 22 to Dec. 14 during Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays within the scheduled dates. The team tournament will include divisions in the men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles.

Registration is now ongoing and application forms are available at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium starting Oct. 27, from Mondays through Thursdays in the morning and on Saturdays and Sundays during the regular badminton practice games.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Over 100 are expected to take part in Northern Marianas Badminton Federation's team tournament slated for next month.

Registration fee is $30 each participant. The fee includes game fees and banquet fees for the awarding ceremony in December.

NMBF president Marconi Calindas said he is excited about the club's second team competition.

"We are looking forward to an improved system since we have had coaching and umpire skills training recently from Oceania Badminton Confederation. We really learned a lot from the training especially with proper umpiring during games. We have learned so much. However, we need the members' cooperation to make this event worthier and more rewarding than last year's successful team tournament. We are still looking and asking for the generosity of our avid sponsors to help us out in this event," he said.

For more information on the upcoming tournament, contact membership committee head Hapi Gabriel at 287-4274.

On another note, NMBF is currently holding its Friday Night Viewing of the recently concluded Beijing Olympics Badminton Gold Medal Matches. Last Friday the group started with the men's and women's doubles gold medal matches between Indonesia and China and Korea and China, respectively. At least 25 members gathered last Friday at member Elma Labuson's home theater in As Matuis. The next Friday Night Viewing is scheduled on Nov. 7 tentatively scheduled at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

The group will be viewing the gold medal matches in men's and women's singles and mixed doubles. The purpose of this activity is to inform the members how the professional badminton is being played internationally.

The members learn from the actual games the proper positioning and footwork during the games.

"Our female members learned last time that women are not a weak gender because the female badminton players in the during the Olympics showed impressive power smashes and agile footwork. They also learned more about the attack and defense positions. Next time the members will see that women and men during mixed doubles play equally in the court," said Calindas. ***(NMBF)***

Jets stun Customs; Legislature, Freedom Air also win

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Joeten Motor Jets roared to a 14-6 upset victory over last year's runner-up Customs in the second day of action in the 2008 Budweiser Inter-Government/Business Softball League Wednesday night at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The Jets dashed to a 4-1 lead after two full innings before Customs took to the driver's seat, 5-4, with four consecutive runs in the top of the third inning. But the Jets charged back with three runs in the bottom of the fourth, Customs with just one in the fifth and the Jets scored six more in the sixth for the win.

James Hayes went 2-for-3, including two runs and two RBIs; Shine Tenorio had 2-for-2 with an RBI; Dung Tenorio had three runs and an RBI; Mel Tenorio had two runs, while Shane Mendiola, Fred Kaipat, and Hector Efraim added a run each.

Marlon Sablan also came up with two RBIs to help lift the Jets to their first win of the season.

John Reyes led Customs in offense with two runs, including a two-run homerun in the third inning—the third homer this year and the first of two of the night. He also scored the lone run for Customs in the fifth.

The second homerun of the night and the fourth of the season came from Toi Celis that aided Legislature's nine-run explosion in the bottom fourth in the team's 16-6 victory over No Zone.

Earlier, Joey de la Cruz posted the first homerun of the season in the second inning of defending champion DCCA's 15-2 victory over Public School System on Monday night.

The second homer came from Smith Regis in the first inning of PIC's bitter 11-12 defeat to P&S.

Celis went at bat three times and produced two runs, two hits, one double, one homerun, and three RBIs.

The other players for Legislature coming in with strong performances were Dennis Cabrera with three runs, three hits and two RBIs; Mitch Aaron with two runs; two hits and an RBI; Ben Camacho with one run, two hits, one triple, and three RBIs; Bernard Cabrera with two runs and one hit, and Perry Besong with one run, two hits and one RBI.

In the other game on Wednesday, Freedom Air scored the most lopsided win so far this season—a 9-0 blanking off CUC.

Three other men's division games were scheduled last night, DLNR vs. DEQ/CRM, Mayors vs. SaipanCell, and POI vs. CPA.

Fall Classic set for Veteran's Day Weekend

The 2008 Fall Classic Junior Tennis Tournament will be held on Veteran's Day Weekend next month with 60 players expected to take part in the boys' and girls' 18-, 14-, and 10-and-under divisions.

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association vice president and longtime CNMI national tennis team coach Jeff Race said a good mix of veteran and rookie junior tennis players will take part in the three-day competition on Nov. 8, 9, and 11.

"Although all the North Pacific regional champions from the NMI will be competing, many first-time players are also expected and encouraged to participate," he said.

The tournament will adopt a compass draw format, where each competitor is afforded the opportunity to play the same number of matches whether they win or lose. Race said every player but one in each event will win at least one match, "and the last match will be against another player closest to them in ability," he said.

"In the end, everyone gets to play a lot of tennis and improve, everyone gets to play exciting and close matches, and everyone goes home with a prize. As this is the first event in several months, matches played will be one 'pro-set' to eight games in the 18 and 14 divisions, and one regular set to six games in the 10 and under," he added.

Race also said that he is happy to announce that Tan Holding Corp. will serve as the tournament's sponsor this year. "NMITA is delighted to have Tan Holdings as the sponsor of this year's event."

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, for her part, said he is thrilled to support youth tennis.

"We're very happy to sponsor this tennis tournament for youth players. There are a lot of very talented young athletes on this island and we want to encourage more healthy activities like this," he said.

Race said that parents and players can email their entry to jeffrace@pticom.com by indicating their singles division.

Last year, North Pacific veterans Ji Hoon Heo and Mayuko Arriola topped the boys' and girls' 18-and-under, while Jake Lee and Thea Minor took care of business in the 13-and-under category. The 9-and-under, meanwhile, saw Quentin Ramsey and Emily Jones take home the championships. ***(Mark Rabago)***

WPS rallies vs GCA to win title

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Whispering Palms School rallied in the third set to defeat Grace Christian Academy, 25-23, 12-25, 16-14, and capture its second championship in the junior varsity division of the 2008 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association volleyball league at the Marianas High School Gymnasium yesterday.

The Terns leaned on Raina Klaver's five consecutive serves in a 6-0 run as they stalled the Eagles offense and rallied from a 10-14 deficit in the deciding third set to win the match and the title.

"This is my second year in the team," said Klaver as she ran around and hugged friends following her heroics in the game.

Klaver did not see action in the first two sets but WPS coach Mark McDonald summoned her in the third.

The Terns, who were runners-up to deposed champion Seventh Day Adventist last year, struggled to win the first set.

Behind the consistent all-around playmaking of most valuable player Kim Min Sung, the Eagles easily won the first set. A.J. Batallones also helped, scoring 10 straight service points in an 11-0 run that gave the Eagles a commanding 22-7 lead for the second set win, which leveled the count at 1-1.

In the third set, the Eagles easily raced to a 12-4 run behind the slices of Min Sung and big man Daniel Camacho.

But the Terns rallied back with a 6-0 run on Clay McCullough-Stearns' five straight serve points to cut the lead at 10-12.

Then, Stearns' wide return and a service winner by Battalones made it 14-10 for the Eagles that caused McDonald to call timeout.

In the resumption of play, Battalones erred on her serve that could have made the big difference.

Klaver simply stood her ground at the service zone and lifted the Terns to the crown with five serve points, including the two service winners in the final two points of the game.

"They got back their concentration in the game. During the timeout I told them just to put in the ball. I really have confidence Raina can make it and that's it," McDonald said.

GCA coach Mark Robles was glad that they have reached the championship after finishing fourth last year.

One of GCA's starters, Kallie O'Connor, had to fly to Australia yesterday, which compounded the Eagles' woes in defense.

Earlier in the day, Calvary Christian Academy defeated Saipan International School Green, 25-21, 25-19 for third place.

Aside from the overall MVP, each school also chose their school MVP.

They were J. Hoom Choi (CCA), Batallones (GCA), Christian Mizer (MCS), Frankie Camacho (SCS), Jacinia Richards (SDA), Emily Hsieh (SIS-B), Angelo Jones (SIS-G), and Jake Lee (WPS).

Lee proved his prowess as he led the Terns in winning the third set with his booming serves. He did it also in the Terns' victory over SDA in the semifinals on Wednesday.

Members of WPS' champion team are Joon Ko, Ilia Corella, Klaver, Kristina Folta, Christian Miller, Jake Lee, Cody Race, Clay McCullough-Stearns, Phalai Frink, and Minori Yoshida.

Saipan Community School was adjudged as this year's sportsmanship awardee after votes cast by the different schools.

The playoffs for the high school division will be played next week starting Monday.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
The WPS Terns receive their championship trophy during the awards ceremony yesterday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The team beat the GCA Eagles in three-sets.

Lee wins two titles in Guam tennis tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Vivian Lee hardly showed rustiness in the 3rd Annual Quality Cup Tennis Tournament held in two weekends at the Hilton Tennis Courts in Guam.

Lee had a seven-month layoff having played her last tournament in February in New Zealand. But despite a long break, she managed to claim two division titles in the tournament organized by the Tennis Academy of Guam.

Lee

In the first weekend of the tournament (Oct. 18-19), Lee competed in the girls' 18-and-under singles and topped the event after beating Pacific Oceania Junior Championship veteran Alea Dugan of Guam in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4.

Lee drew a bye in the opening round and advanced to the finals after downing Ayuri Sugahara, 6-3, 6-2.

Dugan earned a title match with Lee after prevailing over Terea Tapu, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

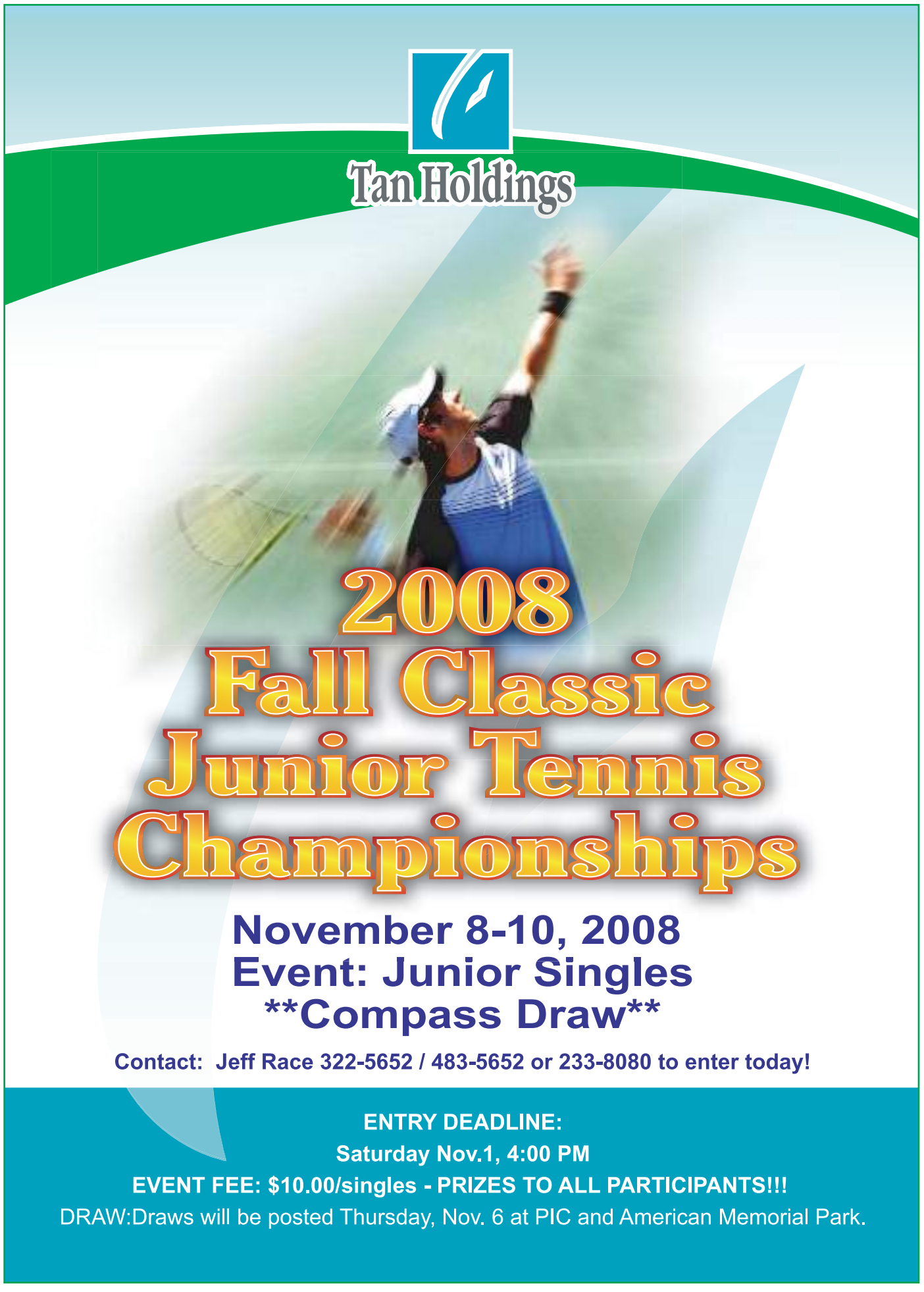
Last weekend, Lee along with two other junior players from Saipan, returned to Guam for the second week of the annual tournament.

Lee played in the women's open division and took her second title after defeating Tapu in the finals, also in straight sets, 6-2, 6-2.

Lee reasserted her mastery over Sugahara winning their semifinals match in the women's open, 6-4, 7-5. Tapu advanced to the finals after slipping past April Flores, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

"It's nice to be back," said Lee in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune* Monday night after a scrim-

See LEE ON PAGE 41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WPS rallies vs. GCA to win title

Whispering Palms School rallied in the third set to defeat Grace Christian Academy, 25-23, 12-25, 16-14, and capture its second championship in the junior varsity division of the 2008 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association volleyball tournament. **43**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Knicks win D'Antoni's debut while Thunder struggle

Mike D'Antoni had a successful debut as the New York Knicks coach, while the Thunder had one to forget in Oklahoma City. **39**

Phillies win the World Series

By **BEN WALKER**
AP BASEBALL WRITER

Save the jokes, the taunts and all those insults about the losingest team in sports. The Philadelphia Phillies just won themselves a World Series. If that sounds strange, it was strange. Nearly 50 hours after Game 5 started but was stopped by rain, Brad Lidge and the Phillies finished off the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 in a three-inning sprint Wednesday night.

"It was a crazy way to win it with a suspended game, but we did and it's over," 45-year-old Phillies pitcher Jamie Moyer said. "It has been a long wait, but it's worth it."

Left in limbo by a two-day storm, the Phillies seesawed to their first championship since 1980. Pedro Feliz singled home the go-ahead run in the seventh and Lidge closed out his perfect season to deliver the title Philly craved for so long.

Cheesesteaks, on the house.

"Who's the world champion?" manager Charlie Manuel asked the gleeful crowd during a 90-minute postgame ceremony that lasted longer than Wednesday night's action.

Bundled in parkas and blankets, fans returned in force to Citizens Bank Park and saw the city claim its first major sports championship in 25 years. No more references needed to those sad-sack Phillies teams in the past and their 10,000-plus losses.

"They could taste it just as much as we could," Series MVP Cole Hamels said.

It was among the wackiest endings in baseball history, a best-of-seven series turned into a best-of-3 1/2 showdown when play resumed in the bottom of the sixth inning tied at 2.

How bizarre? Hamels was a star in Game 5—and the ace never stepped on the mound Wednesday night; Two Rays relievers warmed up to start, and there was a pinch-hitter before a single pitch; "God Bless America" was sung rather than the national anthem, and it was quickly followed by the seventh-inning stretch.

All because the game was suspended Monday night af-

See PHILLIES on Page 41

AP

The Philadelphia Phillies celebrate after Game 5 of the baseball World Series in Philadelphia, Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008. The Phillies defeated the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 to win the series.

Hamels wins World Series MVP award

By **MIKE FITZPATRICK**
AP BASEBALL WRITER

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Cole Hamels won a World Series MVP award Wednesday night without throwing a pitch. Only fitting, because he owned October all the way.

Hamels made five postseason starts for the Philadelphia Phillies and went 4-0 with a 1.80 ERA, a dazzling display of pressure pitching that earned him two treasured trophies.

Already the Most Valuable Player of the NL championship series, the lanky lefty duplicated that feat with two terrific starts against Tampa Bay and joined Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt (1980) as the only World Series MVPs in Philadelphia history.

"I feel like a winner now," Hamels said after the Phillies wrapped up the Series with a 4-3 victory in Game 5.

Hamels outpitched Scott Kazmir for a 3-2 win

See HAMELS on Page 41

AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Cole Hamels celebrates on the field after Game 5 of the baseball World Series in Philadelphia, Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008.

Manuel wins the chess game against Maddon

By **RONALD BLUM**
AP BASEBALL WRITER

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Two pitchers warmed up before the game—for Tampa Bay.

No one warmed up for the Phillies until they had taken the lead.

The intricate nine-inning, 54-out marathon of a baseball game turned into an 18-out dash to the World Series title Wednesday night.

It also turned into a World Series of second-guessing, with Charlie Manuel winning out over Joe Maddon as the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 in the completion of Game 5.

When to change pitchers?
When to bunt?
When to intentionally walk?
When to play the infield in?

See MANUEL on Page 41

AP

Philadelphia Phillies manager Charlie Manuel holds up the World Series trophy after Game 5 of the baseball World Series in Philadelphia, Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008.